

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND
China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. XLVII.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 12TH MARCH, 1898.

No. 10.

CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.	185
Leading Articles:—	
The Disruption of China	186
The Demands of the Powers on China	186
Mr Drummond on the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council	186
The Constitution of the Jubilee Hospital	187
The Post Office Question Again	187
Dr. Atkinson on Plague and Rinderpest	188
Supreme Court	188
The Situation	189
Affairs in the Philippines	189
Prince Henry of Prussia	189
The Diamond Jubilee Memorial Schemes	191
Hongkong Sanitary Board	192
The Explosion on the U.S.S. <i>Maine</i>	193
A Chinese Library and Reading Room	193
The Water Supply	193
Quarantine Against Hongkong in Netherlands India	193
The Voyage of the <i>Coptic</i>	193
Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals	194
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Limited	194
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Limited	195
The China and Manila Steamship Co., Limited	195
The Green Island Cement Co., Limited	195
Oliver's Freehold Mines, Limited	196
The Laou-Kung-Mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Limited	197
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club	197
Polo	197
The Royal Hongkong Golf Club	198
Correspondence	198
Provincial Independence	198
Coal for the Russian Fleet	198
A Spiteful Attack on Mr. Kinder	199
Tramways for Shanghai	199
The New Loan	199
The Accident to the P. & O. Steamer <i>Borneo</i>	199
Tramways for Shanghai	199
The New Loan	199
Japanese Officers for the Chinese Army	199
The Defence of China	199
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. of Shanghai, Limited	200
Shanghai Flour Mill Co., Limited	200
Sea Serpents in Tonkin	200
Hongkong and Port News	200
Commercial	201
Shipping	203

MARRIAGES.

At Saint John's Cathedral, Hongkong, on the 5th March, 1898, Dr. SYLVESTER GARDNER HILL, to the Hon. Mrs. BEAUMONT MONTAGU.

On the 7th March, 1898, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. F. A. Gace, R.N., ERNEST A. MEASOR, of Nagasaki, to MARY (CISSE), eldest daughter of W. G. HUMPHREYS, Esq., of Hongkong.

DEATHS.

On the 9th February, 1898, at Bombay, KAVASJI SORABJI ARSIWALLA, father-in-law of Kavasji Edulji Vaid, of Hongkong.

On the 20th February, 1898, on the M. M. *Yarra*, between Singapore and Colombo, EDWIN TOMLIN, late of Hongkong and Shanghai, aged 36 years.

On the 7th inst., E. ROSE, late of Public Works Department, aged 67 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 3rd February arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, on the 6th March (31 days); and the German mail of the 7th February arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Bayern*, on the 8th March (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

It is reported that the King of Siam has sent an invitation to Prince Henry of Prussia asking him to visit Bangkok during his period of service in the Far East.

The *Bonaventure* has been commissioned to relieve the *Rainbow* on the China Station. It is stated that the *Hermione* and the *St. George* are also going to China.

The Shanghai Amateur Dramatic Club presented the pantomime "Cinderella" on the 3rd March. It is described as a "really hitherto unparalleled performance."

Since the change in the departure of the homeward mails from Singapore, there has been discussed by the banks and brokers there a proposal for making Saturday a close banking holiday. The proposal, however, has been declared impracticable.

Prince Henry of Germany with his squadron, the *Deutschland* and *Gefian*, arrived at Hongkong on the 8th March. As the *Deutschland* has to go into dock His Imperial Highness's stay in the colony will probably extend to two or three weeks.

The Philippine Rebellion has again broken out and during the past few days postal and telegraphic communication between Manila and Bolinao has been suspended, the rebels having cut the telegraph line and prevented the passage of the mails.

We are glad to learn that H.I.M. the Kaiser has recognized the splendid services of Baron von Heyking, German Minister to Peking, with the Order of the Red Eagle with bow. We congratulate the gallant Baron on his well deserved honour.—*China Gazette*.

The assembling of the American squadron at Hongkong has given rise to some conjecture. One report is that the vessels are here in view of the strained relations between the United States and Spain, so as to be ready to run across to the Philippines in case of war being declared.

The political atmosphere has again assumed a threatening appearance during the past week. Russia has demanded the cession of Port Arthur and Talienwan, and Japan is reported to have replied by making a demand for the cession of Weihaiwei, now held by her as security for the payment the war indemnity.

With reference to the early arrival of the Italian cruiser *Marco Polo* at Singapore, that vessel being said to be the first of a squadron of four cruisers, we (*Free Press*) note that Rear Admiral Grenet has been appointed to command the Italian squadron for the Far East. He will leave in the cruiser *Vittor Pisani*.

At a meeting of the subscribers to the Jubilee Permanent Memorial at Shanghai, after a long discussion the following resolution was carried by a small majority:—"That the present Committee be and are hereby authorised to collect the subscriptions and to offer the same to the Municipal Council for the erection of a building to be called the Victoria Nursing Institute, the building to contain a certain number of free beds."

A Sungkiang dispatch reports the capture by the authorities of that city of the pirates concerned in the robbery of Miss E. D. Leveritt's boat, while en route on the night of the 15th ultimo from Sungkiang to Kaoli. Three men and two women were arrested and amongst the numerous pawn tickets found on their persons were those containing Miss Leveritt's ring and other articles belonging to the other passengers on board the boat at the time. The men will doubtless be executed in due course for the crime of piracy.—*N. C. Daily News*.

We wonder, says the *Times of Ceylon* of the 24th February, if the following note from our Wharf correspondent, received this afternoon, has any political import. He writes:—The steamer *Stanley Hall* arrived to-day from Barry, bound for Singapore, with a cargo of coal. On entering the harbour she did not moor, but left again at once as she received orders to continue her voyage immediately.

A Peking despatch received at Shanghai reports that the Imperial government intends, for military reasons, to first build a railway between Hankow and Chinkiang before commencing on the great trunk line between Hankow and Peking, and that the direction of the building of the former line will be given to the Kiangsu expectant Taotai Yung Hung, i.e., Dr. Yung Wing, D.C.L.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A vague rumour has reached here, says the *Japan Herald*, that the American Government has raised some point with reference to the coming into operation of the amended Treaty with this country. Can it possibly be that after the decision of the Bench at Nagasaki, in the Epps case, which has evoked complaint from the authorities at Washington, a want of confidence has been developed there in the capacity of a Japanese Court to properly administer justice? We await further information.

The *Shen Pao* says that the anti-missionary troubles recently reported from Chia H'sing were caused by a native Christian, who got married and refused to go through the usual native ceremonies. This enraged his fellow clansmen and they accordingly attacked and killed him. After this they attacked a Christian chapel. Some say they broke it down, but other reports deny this. At any rate there was a more or less serious disturbance and the Provincial Authorities ordered the Prefect of Hsia H'sing to send a magistrate and a detachment of troops to investigate and settle the matter.—*Mercury*.

It is reported from Vladivostock that the Russians have recently established a mint there for the coinage of silver roubles, but the new roubles will be different from those current in Russia itself, as one side of the new coin will have Chinese and Manchu characters, containing the name of Czar Nicholas II., like the Chinese dollars which bear the name of the Emperor Kuang Hsi. The Chinese are very much in doubt as to what this means; but it is understood that this special coinage is to be used for payments on account of the Russian railway in Manchuria.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Passengers and visitors to and from the Tongku and Tientsin railway stations will have observed the extensive filling-up of stagnant water holes with earth, and the extension of siding accommodation and increased facilities for handling an increasing business. The Tientsin station especially, with its comfortable foreign waiting rooms, is a striking comparison to the wretched mud and wood shanty, with an impossible approach in wet weather, called the railway station a year ago, when there was but one train per day to Tongshan. This is something in the right direction, and to know that the iron road is growing in usefulness one has but to watch the number of locomotives at work at one and the same time. We counted six at Tientsin one day this week, and the whistles of arriving trains can now be heard the 24 hours round.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

THE DISRUPTION OF CHINA

Speaking in the House of Commons the other day Mr. CURZON said the British policy was to prevent or postpone the disruption of China as long as possible. And how long will that be? It must be admitted that British diplomacy, backed by a respectable display of force, has at last, according to present appearances, achieved a substantial success; and British subjects in the Far East will all be glad to see that Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD's services in the matter have been officially acknowledged in Parliament. British prestige, which had sunk to a low ebb, has been re-established and what Great Britain now says commands attention. All this is highly satisfactory; so far as it goes, but the question still presents itself, has our diplomacy been directed to the best end? If all that has been achieved is a postponement of the disruption of China, would it not have been better to allow the disruption to take place and to have protected our interests by participating on an adequate scale in the territorial redistribution? Great Britain may have sufficient influence to prevent the Powers swooping down upon China, but can she possibly stem the forces of disruption operating within the Empire itself? If the entire administration were placed under British control British officers might accomplish the same reformation in China that they have accomplished in Egypt, but against such control all the other Powers would protest; and if the government be left in native hands it is difficult to see how the country can be prevented drifting to a catastrophe. Already there are indications of trouble, as will be seen from an article from the *N. C. Daily News* reprinted in another column. The provincial Governments are now resisting an Imperial order to disband the territorial regiments, which are useless and in large part non-existent, and to utilise the money saved thereby for the maintenance of a foreign drilled army under the direct control of the Central Government. The provincial authorities object to the order because it would deprive them of the handling of large sums of money, diminish their influence and patronage, and probably cause trouble with the dismissed officers and men, who might raise the standard of revolt. There is also discontent at the diversion of a portion of the lekin to the service of the new loan. The interests of the central and provincial Governments are in these matters antagonistic and there is danger of the friction resulting in an open defiance of the Imperial authority. If the difficulty be tided over for the time being it will arise again on future occasions. Mr. CURZON's use of the term "postponement of the disruption" seems to show that Her Majesty's Government anticipate that it may in the long run be found impossible to save the Chinese Empire. That being so, would it not have been better to let the disruption take place at once?

THE DEMANDS OF THE POWERS ON CHINA.

The demand for the occupation of Weihaiwei in perpetuity is, it is reported, Japan's reply to the cession of Port Arthur and Talienwan to Russia. The cession in the one case as well as in the other may be made under the name of a lease for a term of years, but for all practical purposes the lease may be considered a complete surrender of the territories in question. China has just negotiated a loan which would enable her to pay off the remainder of the in-

demnity to Japan, and thereupon, according to the Shimonoseki Treaty, Japan should withdraw from Weihaiwei, which she holds as a guarantee of the faithful performance of the Treaty. But since the Treaty was made circumstances have altered. Germany has seized Piao-chau, Russia is now taking possession of Port Arthur, and Japan apparently considers she is entitled to some concession as an equivalent for the concessions granted to the other Powers named. What Russia and Germany will have to say to the Japanese demand remains to be seen, but the position of those Powers is different now from what it was when, in conjunction with France, they compelled Japan to retrocede the Liaotung Peninsula, for they are now themselves engaged in the game of grab. It was reported the other day that Japan had presented an ultimatum demanding the withdrawal of Russia from Port Arthur, but that was on the face of it improbable as it would have thrown on Japan either the humiliation of withdrawing her ultimatum or the necessity of following it up by war, for Russia would not have yielded. Instead, therefore, of demanding the withdrawal of Russia she asks for an equivalent advantage for herself, and it will be left to Russia, with or without the co-operation of Germany, to turn her out of Weihaiwei if her presence there is objected to. France, which joined with Russia and Germany on the Liaotung question, would probably not interfere again in the North, but may possibly look for some advantage for herself in the South. She gave an assurance the other day that she had no intention of following the example of Germany and seizing a port, but since Russia and Japan are both to get something she may perhaps conceive that she also is entitled to a slice of the cake. In the meantime the situation is not without its humorous side, which was rather cleverly depicted by a writer in the *Avenir du Tonkin* the other day. The Emperor of China is represented as melancholily contemplating a heavy mail, and the following conversation takes place:—

The Secretary—A despatch from Berlin.

The Emperor—Read it.

The Secretary—"I have the honour to inform your Majesty that the Government of the Germanic Empire, finding a certain Chinese harbour to its taste, has ordered our fleet to occupy."

The Emperor—Well, well! The next?

The Secretary—"St Petersburg. I inform your Majesty that, Germany having occupied an excellent port in your realm, my Government has deemed it right, in order to maintain the Asiatic equilibrium."

The Emperor—And the next.

The Secretary—"London. It being reported that Germany and Russia have each annexed a Chinese port my Government is evidently entitled to demand."

The Emperor—Pass on.

The Secretary—"Tokyo. My lord and master the Mikado, seeing that Germany, England, and Russia are preparing to occupy three Chinese ports, thinks that a fourth, under the Japanese flag."

The Emperor—That is enough. Are there any more?

The Secretary—Rather! Listen! "Vienna. His Majesty the Son of Heaven will himself agree that as Germany, Russia, England, and Japan are occupying Chinese ports there is no reason why Austria."

The Emperor—What! Are the little powers in it, too?

The Secretary—"Rome. The Quirinal considers that in view of the occupation of several ports of the Middle Kingdom by Germany, Russia, England, Japan, and Austria it would be unseemly that Italy."

The Emperor—It is irrefutable. And France, has she claimed anything?

The Secretary—She will claim undoubtedly, but the last. It is a tradition.

The Emperor (moved)—Honour to the politest nation of the world!

The Secretary—Do you wish that I should read the despatches of the little Powers?

The Emperor—Certainly.

The Secretary—Here is the communication of the Venezuelan Government: "Considering that Portugal has for four hundred years possessed on Chinese soil the Chinese town of Macao."

The Emperor—It is a case in point and the stroke might have been foreseen.

The Secretary—There is also the Sultan.

The Emperor—Does he also want to avenge the Catholic missionaries?

The Secretary—It is to protect his well beloved subjects the Armenians who may be trading in the Chinese ports.

The Emperor (walking up and down his room).—If every State takes a town from me I will only have Peking left.

An Aide-de-Camp (entering)—Still another despatch.

The Secretary (opening the despatch)—"Berne. The Helvetian Republic, in view of the naval demonstrations that may be necessary in the Yellow Sea and the Gulf of Pechihli, has instructed its Admiral."

The Emperor (decidedly frightened)—It is no use talking. I must abdicate or submit. (To the Secretary.) Write what I shall dictate to you.

The Secretary—At your service.

The Emperor (dictating)—"Confidential circular to the Powers: The Son of Heaven, Sovereign of the Middle Kingdom, King of Kings and Conqueror of the Nations, to his good half-cousins, saluting. China accepts the honour which the Powers wish to render her by each taking a port upon her coast. But as a politeness cannot be allowed to pass unreciprocated, and since it is believed that the reputation and progress of Chinese goods amongst the peoples of Europe are so great as to merit attentive study on the spot by the Chinese themselves, the Son of Heaven has given orders to his glorious and invincible fleet to occupy Liverpool in England, Marseilles in France, Hamburg in Germany, Genoa in Italy, Trieste in Austria, Odessa in Russia, Yokohama in Japan, and Geneva in Switzerland, and to plant the Chinese flag there for ever. No doubt the Powers will receive with pleasure this exchange of compliments." (Stopping.) Does that seem all right?

The Secretary—It is perfect, Sire, too perfect. It will be our destruction. There are two things that can never go together, logic and diplomacy.

The Emperor (scratching his head)—It is true! What shall I do? What precedent can I follow? How shall I preserve the inviolability of my territory? Ah, an idea! (To the Aide-de-Camp.) Let two or three hundred thousand Christians be massacred.

MR. DRUMMOND ON THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

The lecture delivered recently by Mr. W. V. DRUMMOND on the Secret of the British Empire was more interesting and suggestive than actually instructive. There's nothing like leather, says the cobbler; and there's nothing like law, says Mr. DRUMMOND. Perhaps we are all given to magnifying the importance of our own profession or trade, and on Saturday Mr. DRUMMOND conveyed a very exaggerated idea of the importance and influence of law as represented by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. That court occupies a quite unique position and affords an interesting study for the student of our judicial system. But it is a rich man's court and has little to do with the ordinary everyday administration of justice in the distant dependencies of the Crown. And it is by the ordinary everyday administration of justice that the great mass of the natives would have to judge of our

rule, supposing they took the proceedings of our courts as a standard and test. But they never think about such things. What they appreciate in our rule is the fact that the honest man can go about his daily business with a sense of security and freedom from oppression and extortion. The average native looks upon the courts as very good places to keep clear of, and if he has ever heard of the Privy Council he will cherish a fervent hope that he may never have to spend his substance there. The great majority of the cases that go to the Privy Council are cases turning on dry questions of law, and in which considerations of abstract justice scarcely come into play at all. They are nearly all civil suits between wealthy corporations in which the decision turns upon purely technical points, and in which the sense of justice would not be outraged whichever way the decision went. The function of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council is not to correct the injustice of local courts, but simply to decide disputed questions of law, which is a different thing, for law and justice are not always synonymous. If justice is the test by which the natives judge our rule it is rather the justice that characterises the executive than the justice administered in our courts. Mr. ROBINSON, when he said it was freedom that was the secret of the empire, came nearer the mark than Mr. DRUMMOND. But when we talk of the freedom and justice of our rule we must not forget that there are some dark pages in our history of empire. Our rule in Australia has resulted in the practical extermination of the natives in some of the colonies, and in the others they are gradually disappearing. In South Africa also the treatment of the natives has not always been strictly conformable with the principles of justice. Our rule in India, too, to which Mr. DRUMMOND made special reference, is not, as he represents, dependent upon the natives' appreciation of our justice, but upon force. The fact that a comparatively small army suffices to hold the country is due, not to the existence of the Privy Council, but to the racial and religious divisions and animosities of the inhabitants, which prevent their acting unitedly; that the position is not free from danger, however, is proved by the Indian mutiny, which is historically a thing of yesterday, and by the uneasiness caused a couple of years ago by the tree-daubing scare. It is by the strong right hand of England's sons that the empire has been won, and it is by the same means that it must be retained; its retention is no doubt rendered easier by the observance of justice in our dealings with native races, but justice without force would be a broken reed to rely upon.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE JUBILEE HOSPITAL.

In his letter to the Colonial Secretary suggesting that Craigieburn should be acquired for the purposes of the Jubilee Hospital for Women and Children Dr. ATKINSON wrote:—"There is at present a private hospital at the Peak, but its sphere of usefulness is necessarily limited, and as in the main it is a commercial undertaking the benefits to be derived from an annexe such as this [Craigieburn] to the Medical Department of the colony must be evident to all who seriously consider the matter." In his reply to the questions of the Colonial Secretary asking for further information Dr. ATKINSON says Craigieburn would be an annexe to the Government Civil Hospital "by sup-

plying sixteen more beds which would be distinctly remunerative." The words "distinctly remunerative" suggest that the proposed new Hospital is also to be in a measure a commercial undertaking competing with the private institution alluded to in Dr. ATKINSON's first letter. Such competition strikes us as unfair, undesirable, and out of keeping with the character of a Jubilee Memorial. The idea of the subscribers, we think, was that they were contributing to an institution for the benefit of those who are unable on account of their straightened means to provide themselves with proper attention and comfort in cases of serious illness. But in Dr. ATKINSON's letter with reference to the proposed purchase of Craigieburn it will be seen that the predominant idea in his mind is to provide a sanitarium for Government officials, more particularly the staff of the Government Civil Hospital, and for private paying patients, the idea of the Women's and Children's Hospital being made subordinate thereto. "Undoubtedly," says Dr. ATKINSON, "an institution of this sort, at the higher levels, under the administration of the Medical Department, would prove a great boon not only to the Government officials temporarily incapacitated by illness, but also to the members of the community who avail themselves of the opportunities afforded at present at the Government Civil Hospital. . . . Another most important advantage would accrue to the colony by this procedure, viz., the fact that the nursing and medical staff of the Hospital would be able to recuperate in health when living and working at such an institution." All this, commendable as the ideas may be in themselves, is foreign to the idea of the Jubilee Hospital for Women and Children, which was intended to be an institution with a distinct existence of its own. If the institution is to be a mere appendage to a sanitarium for Government officials it will lose its individuality and its character as a permanent memorial of Her Majesty's long reign.

When the Hospital was decided upon it was considered advisable to place it under Government control as offering the best guarantee for continuity in the administration. It might, perhaps, be well to reconsider that point, and instead of making the Hospital a Government institution place it under the control of a committee with the Principal Civil Medical Officer as chairman, such of the private practitioners as were willing to serve being members of the committee, with one or two representatives of the community at large. The Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals are efficiently managed by a committee and there seems no good reason why the Jubilee Hospital for Women and Children should not be conducted on similar lines, as regards its management. There is, we believe, a very general wish that the patients in the hospital should enjoy the privilege of being attended by their own doctors, which is not allowed in the Government hospitals, but might very well be allowed in an institution managed by a representative committee. There would then be no complaint that the Government was engaging in an unfair competition with the private practitioners, and the existing private hospital at the Peak might perhaps by arrangement be incorporated with the new institution. Accommodation could then be provided for private paying patients of different classes, and there would, of course, be a certain number of free beds, the primary object of the institution as a Jubilee

memorial being to provide proper accommodation and attendance for those whose means do not allow them to provide it for themselves. It would be the duty of the committee to see that this object was properly kept in view and that the poor were not crowded out by the well-to-do.

THE POST OFFICE QUESTION AGAIN.

I.

The suggestion made by "Pro Bono Publico" in our correspondence columns on Saturday with reference to the Post Office will, we think, be generally accepted as eminently sensible. If the Post Office is to remain on the present site there would seem to be no need for rebuilding. All that is wanted is more space, and by throwing the present Supreme Court building into the Post Office that requirement would be amply met. The wonder is that no one has thought of this before. The proposal to transfer the Post Office to another site necessarily involved the erection of a new building, and when subsequently it was proposed to retain the present site the idea of having a new building still survived, to the exclusion of the more sensible idea of adapting the existing buildings to the increased requirements of the colony. A small portion of the Supreme Court building is already occupied by the Postal Department, and when the whole becomes available, in addition to the present Post Office, the Department will have all the space it can possibly require and every facility for convenient arrangement, the large halls of the Supreme Court being well adapted for post office work, which does not call for a great number of separate rooms, but large halls divided into compartments by screens. Provided the Post Office is to remain on its present site, therefore, the only possible reason for erecting a new building would be to obtain improved architectural effects, and that, standing alone, is a luxury for which the colony would not be justified in expending the large sum that rebuilding would cost. The present buildings are not unsightly, while structurally they are in good condition and will be serviceable for many years to come. The idea of rebuilding may therefore very well be dropped, for the present at all events. It will be four or five years before the new Law Courts can be ready, and in any case nothing could be done in connection with the erection of a new Post Office on the sites of the present Post Office and the present Supreme Court until the legal departments have entered on possession of their new premises. If when that time arrives it should be thought desirable to transfer the Post Office to the Praya Reclamation site the existing buildings will meet the requirements of the department during the period the new building is in course of erection, while if, on the other hand, it should be thought desirable to retain the Office on its present site (with the inclusion of that now occupied by the Supreme Court) it would be found, we think, that the existing buildings would suffice, or at least the question of rebuilding could be approached *de novo*.

II.

In another column will be found a letter by the Hon. R. D. ORMSBY, Director of Public Works, correcting a misunderstanding of a remark he made in the Legislative Council. The subject was the site of the new Post Office. In connection with that subject the hon. gentleman had just made a reference to the proposed purchase of Beaconsfield,

and the remark that the resolution he had proposed "committed the Council to nothing" must, after Mr. ORMSBY's explanation, be read as applying only to that particular branch of the subject, and not to the whole question. Without the explanation, however, the remark would bear a wider construction, and at the next meeting of Council the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD specifically asked what meaning was to be attached to it, and received no answer. Having quoted the remark, Mr. WHITEHEAD said:—"I should like to know what that really means. 'I do not understand it.'" H.E. the Acting Governor said a question of that sort could hardly be asked—a somewhat peculiar ruling—but went on to say that the Director of Public Works had the right of reply after the motion had been argued and might then refer to the statement he had made. Mr. ORMSBY, however, did not exercise his right of reply, and the question asked by Mr. WHITEHEAD had in the meantime apparently slipped his memory. Mr. ORMSBY now claims that the resolution, so far from committing the Council to nothing, finally settled two questions, so far as that body is concerned, namely, that the new Law Courts should be built on the site immediately in front of the City Hall and that the new Post Office and Treasury, and possibly other Government offices, should be built on the site now occupied by the Post Office and Supreme Court in Queen's Road. That, however, is quite a mistake. The resolution did in fact commit the Council to nothing, that is, nothing more than an expression of opinion which is in no sense binding and may be reversed at any time. The final settlement of the question will come when the Council is asked to vote the money for carrying out the projects. As regards the Law Courts, since all parties are agreed that a new building is necessary and that the site in front of the City Hall is the best for the purpose, there is not likely to be any reversal of the opinion expressed upon that point. As regards the Post Office, however, the matter is on a different footing, and if the advocates of the Praya site choose to re-open the question they will be at perfect liberty to do so. Assuming the retention of the Queen's Road site to be finally determined upon, however, the further question arises whether a new building is necessary or whether the existing buildings could not be adapted to meet all requirements. The resolution passed the other day cannot be taken as committing the Council even to an expression of opinion in favour of the demolition of the existing buildings, since the idea of their adaptation was not broached in the course of the debate, which was confined entirely to the relative advantages of the two sites.

DR. ATKINSON ON PLAGUE AND RINDERPEST.

Rather an alarmist note was struck by Dr. ATKINSON at the special meeting of the Sanitary Board on the 3rd March. He would like to mention, he said, that in 1894 there was an attack of rinderpest amongst the cattle before the plague broke out in this colony; again in 1896 there was another outbreak of rinderpest before the plague epidemic of that year; there might, he added, be some connection between the two, and he thought there very probably was. As against that opinion we may set the fact that outbreaks of rinderpest have taken place amongst cattle in various parts of the world at various times without being followed by any outbreak of plague amongst

human beings; in fact, so far as we are aware, Hongkong is the only place where the coincidence of the two diseases has excited remark. Dr. ATKINSON, however, claims to have discovered the bacillus of rinderpest, and that it is almost exactly the same as plague bacillus. 'If it be really the case that the two diseases are related, and that the one may give rise to the other, it is possible that this year the cattle have caught the infection from human beings, for plague has for some time past been present in the colony, the number of deaths averaging about four a day. Plague is said also to be prevalent in the neighbourhood of Swatow, with which place this colony is in frequent communication. There is no cause for alarm at present, as the disease does not appear to be on the increase in Hongkong, but there is every reason for the exercise of the closest vigilance, as with the disease in our neighbourhood and actually within our gates there is no saying how soon it may assume the proportions of an epidemic. The *Lancet* has already remarked on "the recrudescence of 'plague in Hongkong'" and deplores the fact that "our colonies cannot see the desirability of taking action on modern lines," that is, following the recommendations of the Venice Convention and establishing a system of medical inspection of all passengers arriving in the colony. Whether the disease has this year been developed in the colony itself or has been introduced from outside there is no information to show, but the desirability of preventing its introduction seems so obvious that it is difficult to understand the repugnance of the shipping community to the adoption of the recognised scientific measures for attaining that end, for in the event of an epidemic the shipping interests would be among the chief sufferers commercially, on account of the quarantine that would be imposed at other ports.

SUPREME COURT.

5th March.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.—SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

C. E. PATTEN, APPELLANT, V. A. BRENNER, RESPONDENT.

In this case the appellant, who is the first mate of the American ship *B. R. Thomas*, sought to have set aside the decision of the Hon. H. E. Wodehouse on the 18th February, whereby he was sentenced to imprisonment for six weeks with hard labour for assaulting the respondent.

Mr. H. W. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the appellant. Hon. W. M. Goodman, Attorney-General (instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, Crown Solicitor), appeared for the Crown.

Mr. Slade said he appeared on behalf of the appellant, C. E. Patten, who was chief mate on the American ship *B. R. Thomas*, which was lying in the harbour, on an appeal against the decision of the Magistrate, by which the appellant was convicted of an assault upon the respondent, A. Brenner, who was a seaman on board that ship, and for which assault the appellant was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour. The case for the appellant came before the Court under Sections 104 and 105 of the Magistrates Ordinance. Leave to appeal had been granted by the Magistrate. The grounds of the appeal, which was by way of rehearing, were that the decision of the Magistrate was erroneous in point of fact, and contrary to the weight of evidence, and secondly, in the alternative, that the sentence of six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour was excessive.

The Attorney-General (interrupting)—Section 105 requires service of the motion on the re-

spondent within ten days. I do not think the respondent has been served.

The Chief Justice—For whom do you appear?

The Attorney-General—I appear for the Crown.

The Chief Justice—What has the Crown got to do with it?

The Attorney-General—It is a case in which the Queen—

The Chief Justice—The notice was not served on the Magistrate. You do not appear for the Magistrate?

The Attorney-General—No, my Lord, I mentioned it with a view to having that matter settled.

The Chief Justice—I do not see how you are here unless you appear for the respondent.

The Attorney-General—I cannot say that I appear for the respondent; I have not seen the respondent. I appear rather with the view that the Court may be informed of any matter that took place before the Magistrate. It was quite competent for the respondent to have his own solicitor and his own counsel to appear here. It has been the usual course to serve the respondent, but the Crown Solicitor has been served. We did not ask to be served, but I thought I ought to be here, as notice has been served upon us, on behalf of the Crown. I thought it was only respectful to the Court that I should appear here and point out the strong view the Crown entertains as to whether there was jurisdiction to deal with a man for an assault of this kind on board a ship lying in our harbour.

The Puisne Judge—That point is not raised.

The Attorney-General—Of course as the respondent has not been served the Court has no jurisdiction, as ten days have elapsed, and therefore the appellant's case must fail.

The Puisne Judge—The notice should have been served upon the respondent, and the Crown could have taken the case up if they thought it good enough.

The Chief Justice—Mr. Attorney, will you appear for the respondent or not?

The Attorney-General—No, my Lord. I have not been asked by him to appear.

The Chief Justice—Then I do not think the Crown has any *locus standi*.

The Attorney-General—If the notice had not been served on the Crown Solicitor I should not have appeared.

The Chief Justice—Well, Mr. Attorney, there has apparently been a misapprehension in the matter. Would it not be better to waive irregularities and for you to appear formally for the respondent in the matter, and argue the case on its merits?

The Attorney-General—The difficulty is that your Lordships have not statutory power, as the Court cannot give jurisdiction if all the conditions of the Ordinance have not been complied with.

The Chief Justice—Is the respondent here?

The Attorney-General—He is here, although the notice has not been served on him. (Turning to the body of the court.) Is Brenner here?

Someone in court—No.

The Chief Justice—Has he communicated with the Crown Solicitor?

The Attorney-General—No. The respondent has been arrested for deserting his ship, and the case has been remanded.

Mr. Slade said the remarks of the Attorney-General were absolutely and completely foreign to any question before the Court. The learned Attorney-General was in a very anomalous position. He did not appear on behalf of the respondent, and he appeared on behalf of the Crown, and the Crown had no part in the proceedings. He had absolutely no *locus standi* to appear before their Lordships.

The Puisne Judge—What is your explanation of not having served the respondent?

Mr. Slade said the respondent disappeared, and the ordinary course had been taken by the notice of motion being served on the Crown Solicitor. The Crown was no party to these proceedings; it was a private prosecution. Notice of motion was served upon the Crown Solicitor, and the Crown Solicitor accepted service. If he had no instructions from the respondent, his duty was to have returned that notice, and said he had nothing to do with it. He said nothing about this, and the Attorney-General came to the Court and, in spite of the Crown

Solicitor accepting service, said the appellant had not complied with the requirements of the statute. His Lordship would see the position in which the appellant was put.

The Chief Justice—You should not have served notice on the Crown Solicitor unless he was representing the respondent. You should have complied with the requirements of section 105 by serving the respondent or his solicitor. The Crown Solicitor has nothing to do with it.

Mr. Slade—Surely, my Lord, if I take an action against A.B. and serve the summons on C.D. and C.D. accepts service, that is good service.

The Attorney-General—There was no acceptance of service at all.

The Chief Justice—He had not represented the respondent at the Police Court?

Mr. Slade—No.

The Chief Justice—He had nothing to do with these proceedings.

Mr. Slade—He is the Public Prosecutor.

The Chief Justice—This is essentially a private prosecution.

Mr. Slade—I do not wish to use hard words, but it seems to me a bit of—

The Chief Justice—I think the best course will be to give you leave to serve notice on the respondent.

Mr. Slade—It is exceedingly hard for this motion to be postponed.

The Chief Justice—You cannot go on unless the law is complied with. The law says that the notice of motion must be served on the respondent. You have not done that.

The Attorney-General said that until he came into court he did not know that the notice had not been served on the respondent. There were several of these appeals, and he did not know whether he should appear or not.

The Chief Justice—The best course would have been for the Crown Solicitor to write to the appellant's solicitor saying he had nothing to do with the case. Mr. Slade, we are in this position. We must either dismiss your motion on the ground that you have not complied with the law or we will give you leave to serve the notice of motion on the respondent.

Mr. Slade—I ask leave to serve the notice, and I also apply for substituted service.

The Puisne Judge—On what ground do you ask for substituted service? Is the man away?

Mr. Slade—I believe so, my Lord. He deserted his ship and cannot be found.

The Attorney-General said he believed the Magistrate remanded the man.

The Chief Justice directed that an application be made in Chambers for substituted service.

Mr. Slade said the ship was going away shortly and he asked that an early date be fixed.

The Chief Justice said that he would make as early a date as possible when the question of service had been settled.

The Attorney-General said he was anxious there should be no injustice done, and if his Lordship thought justice would be best served by his appearing for the respondent he would rather do so than cause delay.

His Lordship said that under the circumstances he did not see how the Court could allow the Attorney-General to appear for the respondent, as he had nothing to do with the case. If Mr. Slade brought an application to him in Chambers on Monday an early date for the hearing would be fixed.

7th March.

Leave to serve the notice of motion on the respondent having been granted the respondent, who had been arrested for deserting his ship, was now present in court in the custody of a prison warder.

Mr. Slade detailed the evidence for the respondent given before the Magistrate and submitted that it betrayed gross exaggeration. His evidence was that he was eating his meal outside the fore-castle when the appellant went to him, accused him of having been asleep, and then knocked him down and brutally kicked him about the body. He was struck in his left eye and mouth and kicked in his stomach, the result being that his eye was discoloured, a tooth was knocked out, his lips were split, and his body was swollen. Counsel admitted that if all this was true it was a most serious assault, but he submitted that although an assault had been committed it was not of such a violent character

as the respondent had made out. The captain swore before the Magistrate that he saw no mark on the respondent's face on the following day, and therefore the injuries could not have been very great. It might be said that the captain was a prejudiced witness, but a violent mate, who was brutal to the crew, would be a most undesirable man to have on board, and that fact would discount the obvious comment that the captain was in favour of his own officer. Counsel asked their Lordships, even if they believed the whole of the respondent's story, to reduce the heavy penalty of six weeks' imprisonment.

Their Lordships considered that the evidence for the respondent was reliable and that the sentence was a just one. The motion was therefore dismissed with costs, if any.

THE SITUATION.

ALARMING REPORTS.

Rumours were in circulation on 9th Mar.—apparently possessing some foundation though we have been unable to obtain direct official confirmation of them—to the effect that Russia had hoisted her flag at Port Arthur and Talienwan, and that Japan had sent an ultimatum to Russia demanding her withdrawal from those ports.

There has been a fall in consols on the London market, the quotations during the last month being as follows:—Feb. 12, 113½; Feb. 19, 112½; Feb. 26, 112½; Mar. 5, 112½; Mar. 8, 111½.

That the Russian flag has been hoisted at Port Arthur and Talienwan is very probable, but that Japan has presented an ultimatum is more doubtful, though no doubt there will be considerable excitement upon the subject in that country. The latest official statement as to the intentions of Russia was contained in a Reuter's telegram dated 25th February, which was as follows:—"Mr. Curzon read a note from Count Muravieff in the House of Commons declaring that any port Russia occupies in China will be open to ships for the commerce of the world." A later telegram, dated 3rd March, stated, on the authority of the *Standard*, that the Government is negotiating with Russia and Germany with a view to embodiment in a formal diplomatic document in the character of an international agreement of their assurances regarding China." From this it would appear that England did not intend to oppose the acquisition of a port or ports by Russia, provided Russia would give an undertaking that the port or ports so acquired should be thrown open to the trade of the world.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

Shanghai, 9th March.

It is reported that Japan has formally lodged a claim to continue in permanent occupation of Weihaiwei.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week:—

London, 3rd March.

The *Standard* states that the Government is negotiating with Russia and Germany, with a view to embodiment, in a formal diplomatic document in the character of an international agreement, of their assurances regarding China.

London, 7th March.

The *Times* Peking correspondent wires that Russia has demanded that China surrenders her Sovereign rights in Port Arthur and Talienwan had grants the same conditions to Russia as have been granted to Germany at Kiaochau. Russia also demands the right to construct a railway from Petuna to Moukden and Port Arthur. In the event of China not complying with these demands within five days Russia threatens to send troops into Manchuria.

Mr. Curzon speaking in the House said that no information concerning the Peking *Times* correspondent's statements re Russia and China had been received by the Government.

An approach to a panic has occurred on the London Stock Exchange, owing to fears of a conflict with Russia in connection with China.

London, 8th March.

Russia has demanded a lease of Port Arthur and Talienwan for 99 years and insisted on a reply by to-day.

Mr. Curzon has announced that he has telegraphed to Peking and St. Petersburg enquiring about the above.

AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

COMMUNICATION WITH MANILA OUT OFF.

For some days past there have been alarming reports in circulation with reference to the position of affairs in Luzon. On the 8th inst. we published a paragraph stating that it was reported that another rebellion had commenced in the Philippines and that an encounter with Spanish troops had taken place. On the previous day the cable companies had issued a notification stating that the Spanish Government land lines beyond Bolinao had been interrupted since Sunday night, 6th inst., and that telegrams were being forwarded to Bolinao to await restoration of the land lines. On Thursday another notification was issued stating that owing to the continued interruption of the Spanish Government's land line between Bolinao and Manila, and the interruption of all postal communication between those places, telegrams for the Philippines are being despatched from Hongkong, Amoy, &c. by steamer. From this it is to be inferred that the rebels are in possession of the country between Bolinao and Manila. In the late rebellion this district was so little affected that telegraphic and postal communication was maintained throughout the whole period of the disturbances.

It is reported that in the encounter between the Spanish troops and the rebels reported in our issue of the 8th the Spanish lost upwards of fifty men.

On Thursday afternoon H.M.S. *Edgar* was hurriedly prepared for sea, and she left for Manila yesterday.

There was also a rumour than an American warship was under orders to leave for Manila this morning, but we hear that no such orders have as yet been given.

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

ARRIVAL IN HONGKONG.

The battleship *Deutschland*, with Prince Henry of Prussia on board, and the cruiser *Gefion* arrived here on Tuesday morning, both vessels steaming into the harbour in company shortly after seven o'clock. The squadron was observed passing Gap Rock at eleven o'clock on Monday night, and they anchored outside the island until after daybreak. They made fast to their buoys about half past seven and at eight o'clock the usual salutes were exchanged.

At 11.30 a.m. His Royal Highness landed at Murray Pier as an Admiral of the German fleet after having paid a visit to Commodore Holland, A.D.C., on board the *Tamar*. On landing a salute was fired by the Royal Artillery shore battery, and the Prince, who was accompanied by two of his officers, was met on the steps by Colonel The O'Gorman. A guard of honour, formed by men of the King's Own Lancaster Regiment, with the Regimental Colours and Band, received His Royal Highness, who repeatedly acknowledged the salutes of the crowd of residents assembled on the pier eager to catch a glimpse of the royal visitor. The Prince was wearing on his breast several medals and orders, and his fine, commanding figure was the subject of much comment. He was apparently in splendid health and when Colonel O'Gorman was about to conduct him to a ricksha which was in waiting he expressed his desire to walk. Without losing a moment he proceeded to Headquarter House to pay a visit to His Excellency Major-General Black, C.B., the Acting Governor. After leaving Headquarter House His Royal Highness called on the German Consul and then returned in a steam pinnace to the *Deutschland*.

In the afternoon His Excellency the Acting Governor returned His Royal Highness's visit, and the usual salutes were fired.

On Tuesday evening His Royal Highness dined with the German Consul.

The *Deutschland* was built in England in 1874 at a cost of £412,022. She is a central battery sea-going armour clad battleship, and one the few remaining boats of English build in the German navy. She stands high out of the water and her width is disproportionate to her length, so far as shapeliness is concerned. Her dimensions are: length 280 feet, beam 62 feet 4 inches, and mean draught 24 feet 7 inches. Although of 7,319 metric tons displacement her

normal coal supply is only 710 tons, her speed design being for 14.5 knots and her engines of 5,360 indicated horse power. Her armament, however, has been brought up to date, and consists of eight 10.2 inch guns, seven 5.9 inch guns, nine 3.4 quick-firers, twelve machine guns, and two light guns, whilst she carries five torpedo tubes.

The *Gefion* is a second-class cruiser and was built at Elbing in 1893. Her tonnage is 4,207, and her engines are of 9,000 horse-power, enabling her to travel 20 knots an hour. She is 344 feet long (60 feet longer than the *Deutschland*) and 48 feet wide, and her armament consists of eight 5.9 guns, ten 4.1 quick-firing guns, six 1.9 weapons and three smaller ones.

The following is the list of the officers:—

H. M. S. *Deutschland*, Commander Capt. Plochte, First Officer Capt. Lt. von Bassewitz, Capt. Lt. von Born and Brüll, Lieutenants von Abeken, Lange, Höpfner, Meidinger Reinhardt, Böder, von Gandecker, Karder, Schwengers, Wegener, v. d. Kneesebeck, First Lieut. Robert of the Marine Infantry Engineer Pasche, Surgeon, Dr. Runkwitz, Assistenz—Avzt. Oloff. Zahlmeister Wolschke.

H.M.S. *Gefion*:—Commander Corv. Capt. Follenius, first Officer Capt. Lt. v. Oppeln Bronikowsky, Ltts. v. Jachmann, Heinemann, Symanski, Kehrt, Schulze, Herzbruch, Schrader, Richter, Ingenieure, Stehr, Hoffmann, Stabsarzt Dr. v. Forster, Zahlmeister Jasper.

Prince Henry left Kiel for China on December 16th, and after visiting England, sailed from Gibraltar for Port Said on December 28th. The squadron did not leave Suez till January 9th, having been detained by an accident to the cable of the *Deutschland*. At Aden they met with a hearty reception, but after leaving Aden they were considerably delayed by the coaling trouble, the *Gefion* having to put back for colliers and the *Deutschland* being kept laying for a whole week off Socotra. Colombo was reached on the 8th February and the *Deutschland*, in company with the *Gefion*, left for Singapore on the evening of the 15th February, arriving there on the 24th February. The squadron left Singapore on the 28th February, so that the voyage to Hongkong was by no means hastily accomplished.

H.R.H. Prince Albert William Henry of Prussia, a brother of H.I.M. the Emperor of Germany and a grandson of H.M. the Queen, was born at the new Palace of Potsdam on August 14th, 1862; and was married at Charlottenbourg on May 14th, 1888, to Irene, Princess of Hesse and the Rhine. He has one son H. R. H. Prince Valdemar (William-Louis-Frederic-Victor-Henry), born at Kiel on March 20th, 1889. His career and services are thus noted in official records:—Captain in the German navy; commander of the armoured ship *Worth*; colonel on the staff of the 1st regiment of foot guards; of the regiment of Fusiliers of the Landwehr of the guard, and of the 25th regiment of Hessian field artillery; commander of the 33rd Regiment of Russian dragoons, "Prince Royal d'Allemagne et de Prusse"; Colonel-in-Chief of the 20th regiment of Austrian infantry; captain of the staff of the Austrian navy; knight of the order of the Black Eagle, of the Garter, and of the Golden Fleece.

DINNER AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

On Wednesday evening H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia dined at Government House with His Excellency the Acting Governor, Major-General Wilson Black, C.B. The party at the table was as follows:—His Excellency the Acting Governor and Lady Carrington; H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia and Mrs. Black; Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice) and Mrs. Holland; Commodore Holland, A.D.C., and Mrs. Lockhart; Captain Plachte (Commander of the *Deutschland*) and Mrs. Bell Irving; Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Colonial Secretary) and Mrs. Goodman; Hon. W. M. Goodman (Attorney-General) and Mrs. Jackson; Hon. C. P. Chater and Mrs. McNair; Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving and Mrs. Von Loeper; Colonel Elsdale and Mrs. Rowlandson; Captain Müller (personal A.D.C. to Prince Henry) and Madam O'Gorman; Flag Lieutenant Graf Spee and Miss Black; Mr. von Loeper (German Consul); Colonel Rowlandson; Mr. Thomas Jackson; Hon. Dr. Ho Kai; Colonel The O'Gorman; and Mr. C. C. Platt (Private Secretary to His Excellency the Acting Governor).

"The Queen" and "H.I.M. The German Emperor" were the toasts, and they were proposed by H.E. the Acting Governor.

RECEPTION AT THE GERMAN CLUB.

After dinner the Prince attended the private reception given at the German Club by the German community. The Club was tastefully decorated inside and brightly illuminated outside.

FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS.

The *Deutschland* will go into dock to undergo rather extensive repairs. On hearing of this His Excellency the Acting Governor at once invited Prince Henry to be his guest at Government House while the ship was in dock. His Royal Highness has intimated that he will be pleased to accept the invitation. It is not yet known how long it will be before the *Deutschland* proceeds North, but it will probably be two or three weeks. In consequence of the Prince's visit being thus prolonged a garden party will be given next week, to be followed by other festivities.

The garden party to be given in honour of H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia will take place in the grounds of Government House on Monday afternoon next, at 4.15.

The *Deutschland* will go into dock at Kowloon on Monday morning, and Prince Henry will be the guest of His Excellency Major-General Black until the vessel's repairs are completed.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE MEMORIAL SCHEMES.

With reference to the letter forwarded by Dr. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer, to the Jubilee Committee, suggesting the purchase of "Craigieburn" and its conversion into a hospital for women and children and a nursing institute, we are asked to publish the following minutes appended thereto. The letter has already been published.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart) wrote as follows to Dr. Atkinson:—

With reference to the attached letter from you, I am to request you to explain the following points:—

1.—When the scheme for the erection of a hospital for women and children was before the Jubilee Committee, it is understood that you were strongly of opinion that, if the proposed hospital were to be under the management of the Government Medical Department, it would be necessary for it to be erected on the lower levels. How have you overcome your objections on this point?

2.—It is believed that one of the objects in retaining the hospital on the lower levels was to minimise the expenditure on account of staff, &c. If the hospital is constructed on the higher levels, how will the expenditure on account of staff compare with the expenditure likely to be incurred on account of a hospital erected below?

3.—In your letter you stated that with a few alterations "Craigieburn" could be made available for women and children in addition to being an annexe to the Government Civil Hospital.

How many beds do you calculate Craigieburn could contain?

How many of these would belong to the hospital for women and children?

In what sense could Craigieburn be made an annexe to the Government Civil Hospital and, in the event of its becoming so, how many beds would be available for this purpose?

4.—In the last paragraph of your letter you state that it is principally for European women and children that greater accommodation is required.

(a) Do you mean by this that the present accommodation in the Civil Hospital for European women and children is insufficient? What is the extent of that accommodation?

(b) What has been the average number of European women and children entering the hospital during the last three years?

(c) What is the present accommodation for women and children other than Europeans?

(d) Has there been a tendency for this class of patients to increase of late? If so, what are the figures for the last three years?

(e) In the event of the hospital for women and children being erected on the higher levels, what extra accommodation will this place at

your disposal in the Civil Hospital and for what purpose will such extra accommodation be used?

(f) Has the pressure on the present accommodation for women and children ever necessitated the refusal of cases? If so, in how many instances?

5.—Will your present proposal involve any extra expenditure by Government as compared with the original scheme, which, it was understood, would not involve an increase of the medical staff of the Colony?

As a meeting of the Jubilee Committee will be held next week, I am to request you to report with the least possible delay.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

Colonial Secretary.

Dr. ATKINSON replied as follows:—

I answer to your questions:—

1.—My exact words when giving evidence before the Jubilee Committee on the 13th April, 1897, were "that a hospital for women and children on the lower levels would be more advantageous from an administrative point of view," by this I meant that the staff would be more economically worked if the hospital were adjacent to the present Government Civil Hospital.

2.—The staff, &c. for the proposed Hospital for women and children is as follows:—

1 Sister	1 Cook
4 Boys	4 Amahs
2 Coolies	1 Stokers

See conditions submitted to the local architects who competed.

If the Hospital were at the Peak there would be in addition 3 more Coolies required, one as a messenger and 2 to act as market coolies.

3.—Since writing my letter I have inspected "Craigieburn" and interviewed the Hon. Director of Public Works concerning this building and we are both of the opinion that, structurally at least \$10,000 will have to be expended in order to make it meet our requirements.

The Director of Public Works recommends that a hospital be erected on the Government site at present partly occupied by the Peak Club. "Craigieburn" would give us if altered as we would suggest:—

2 I. class wards with 2 beds	
2 II. class wards " 4 "	
2 III. class wards " 28 "	
1 Children's ward " 8 "	
1 Isolation ward " 2 "	

44 beds

The number allowed for in the plans already submitted by the architects, and in addition for convalescents:—

4 1st class wards with 4 beds	
2 2nd " " 8 "	
2 Lying In wards " 4 "	

"Craigieburn" would in this way be an annexe to the Government Civil Hospital by supplying 16 more beds, which would be distinctly remunerative.

4.—Decidedly insufficient.—

(a) In answer I would refer you to my annual reports for the years 1895 and 1896 in Annual Report of the Medical Department.

The extent of this accommodation, as can be ascertained on reference to my evidence before the Jubilee Committee on April 13th, 1897, is at present one general ward with 14 beds for Women and Children of every nationality and one Private Ward.

(b) In my evidence before the Jubilee Committee the following figures were given:—

Year	Women
1894	254
1895	326
1896	399

(c) At present and hitherto women and children of every nationality have of necessity had to occupy the same general ward.

(d) Yes. In answer to the second part of this question, I refer you to information contained in paragraph b.

(e) One general ward containing 14 beds and one private ward.

The general ward would be utilised for Chinese destitutes, our accommodation in this respect is very inadequate, as I have more than once had occasion to point out to Government.

(f) Yes. It is impossible for me to answer the second part of the question.

5.—No increase of the Medical Staff will be required.

In conclusion, I may mention that after consulting with the Hon. Director of Public Works I am of the opinion that \$50,000 would be a fair estimate of the value of "Craigieburn" as it is at present.

As there is roughly \$60,000 available for the Hospital for Women and Children this would leave \$10,000 to be expended on structural alterations, the Government I understand will furnish the Hospital, although there is no provision for this in the estimates.

J. M. ATKINSON.
P.C.M.O.

Hongkong, 5th March 1898.

THE HOSPITAL TO BE ERECTED ON A HIGH LEVEL.

A meeting of the Jubilee Committee was held on Wednesday afternoon in the Council Chamber. There were present—Hon. C. P. Chater (Chairman), Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Hon. Secretary), Mr. T. Jackson (Hon. Treasurer), Hon. F. H. May, Hon. E. R. Bellios, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Hon. Wei Yuk, Messrs. J. Thurburn, N. J. Ede, H. M. Mehta, W. Chatham, W. Danby, A. J. Raymond, R. M. Moses, H. A. Ritchie, D. R. Crawford, Fung Wa Chuen, A. P. McEwen, and J. J. Francis, Q.C. Dr. Atkinson (Principal Civil Medical Officer) was present by request.

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 28th February were read and confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN stated that in accordance with the authority given to him at the last meeting he had arranged with the owners of Craigieburn for the postponement of the sale of that property for a fortnight and had secured the refusal of it for the sum of \$60,000.

The CHAIRMAN then laid on the table the minutes of the Colonial Secretary (Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart) and the reply of the Principal Civil Medical Officer (Dr. J. M. Atkinson), which appeared in the *Daily Press* of the 9th inst.

The CHAIRMAN also read the following letter which he had received from Drs. Hartigan, Stedman, and Rennie.—

Hongkong, 7th March, 1898.

Dear Sir,—We understand that there is a proposal before the Jubilee Committee to buy Craigieburn for the purpose of utilising it as a hospital at the Peak. We should therefore be glad if you would lay this letter before the Committee. You are doubtless aware that for some years past we have been maintaining a small private hospital at the Peak, a hospital which was described before your Committee as a "commercial undertaking." This description is no doubt to some extent true, as we endeavour to make the hospital pay for its maintenance, but it by no means represents the whole truth; as a matter of fact for the last three years only there has been a small surplus on the annual working of our hospital. Previously to that it was carried on at a loss. You will ask, "Why then do you wish to keep it up?" Our reason is that we are not allowed to treat our own cases when they are removed to the Civil Hospital (of course, you will understand that in cases of severe illness and in cases requiring operation removal to hospital is almost a necessity), and since from professional interest we desire to continue attending cases we have begun with, we were driven to maintain a private hospital, even if it entailed some loss to ourselves. And not only so, but many persons prefer to continue under the treatment of their own doctor, although the nature of their illness compels their removal to a hospital. Now, this is a matter which affects not only ourselves, but also the other private practitioners in the colony, since they often send patients of their own to our Peak Hospital, and attend them there themselves, their patients being admitted at the same terms as our own. Now it seems to us that if the Jubilee Committee decide to establish a hospital at Craigieburn, which is wholly under the Government doctors, a great injustice will be done to us and the other private practitioners in the colony; because it seems probable that the existence of a second hospital at the Peak will so compete with our own that we shall be unable to continue to maintain it, and if we are not to be allowed to treat our own cases who

may go to the Jubilee Hospital, we shall be thereby prevented from continuing in attendance on cases we are treating, and members of the community who are forced to go into hospital will be compelled to change their doctors on entering hospital, whether they will or not.

Of course, if the Jubilee Hospital is restricted to really necessitous cases, who are usually considered to be the only really eligible cases for treatment in a hospital supported by rates and contributions, we have nothing but sympathy for the scheme, and would moreover willingly give our professional assistance if it were required; but at present persons in the upper ranks of society of our own and neighbouring communities, who should be well able to pay the usual fees for themselves, are being admitted to the Government Civil Hospital, especially to the maternity department, at rates less than they would have to pay at a hotel in the colony, and their medical attendance, nursing, and other extras are thrown in free gratis; the difference being made up by the ratepayers; and we feel that it is not right that a hospital on these lines should be started by the Jubilee Committee. It has been stated before your Committee that it is impossible for the Jubilee Hospital to be managed by the Government, and yet allow private doctors to treat their own cases there. We submit that this is not a fact, that such an arrangement is perfectly simple, and that a somewhat similar plan holds good at many of the English county hospitals, and also in London at hospitals which have paying wards, for instance at St. Thomas'; proof of this can be obtained by looking at their prospectus, where it is stated that doctors not members of the hospital staff can send their cases there and attend them themselves.

One other point we would mention, and that is, that seeing that half the subscriptions were made up by the Chinese community, some provision should be made at the Jubilee Hospital for their treatment; whereas from our experience with our own hospital at the Peak, it seems doubtful whether they could be induced to make use of a hospital situated on the upper levels.—We remain, your obedient servants,

WILLIAM HARTIGAN.
F. O. STEDMAN.
ALEX. RENNIE.

To the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G.

Chairman Jubilee Committee.

The CHAIRMAN then explained that this meeting had been summoned with the object of considering Dr. Atkinson's proposal, which was explained at the previous meeting and which was contained in his letter of the 26th February last and already published. His suggestion was that Craigieburn should be purchased for the purpose of a hospital for women and children.

Hon. HO KAI inquired whether it was intended that the nursing institute was to be a building distinct from the hospital for women and children.

The CHAIRMAN explained that it was the intention to have two distinct buildings, one for the nursing institute and one for the hospital for women and children.

A question being asked as to the amount to be expended on the hospital for women and children and nursing institute respectively, the CHAIRMAN pointed out that the accounts laid upon the table at the previous meeting showed that there was a balance in hand of \$184,381.38. Half that amount was to be devoted towards the construction of the Victoria Jubilee Road and the other half would be available for the hospital for women and children and the nursing institute. When inviting plans for these institutions the sum mentioned in the conditions was \$60,000 for the building for the hospital and \$25,000 for the building for the nursing institute.

After some further discussion Mr. FRANCIS moved that Dr. Atkinson's proposal be rejected. Hon. HO KAI seconded.

Mr. EDE spoke in favour of the motion and said that it appeared to him that the Jubilee Committee should not only build a hospital but furnish it, and this matter ought to be borne in mind when the expenditure on account of the hospital was being considered.

Mr. CHATHAM expressed it as his opinion that Craigieburn was not a desirable place for the purposes of a hospital.

Hon. F. H. MAY spoke against the motion and expressed himself as in favour of the purchase as recommended by Dr. Atkinson.

Mr. JACKSON and Mr. MAC EWEN spoke against the purchase of Craigieburn.

Mr. FRANCIS's motion was then put to the meeting and carried, only two voting against it.

Mr. JACKSON then moved the following resolution:—"That it is desirable to erect the women and children's hospital on the higher levels and on a site not lower than the Robinson Road, and to abandon the idea of building on the present Civil Hospital site." Mr. Jackson said the nursing institute could be built on a site adjoining the sisters' quarters.

Hon. HO KAI pointed out that although the Chinese might not be inclined to go to a hospital on the higher levels the erection of the building on these levels would, as Dr. Atkinson had pointed out, place more room at his disposal in the Civil Hospital below, and as he understood that the space so left would be available for the treatment of Chinese, he had no hesitation in seconding the motion.

The motion was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Mr. CRAWFORD stated that he wished to make a suggestion which, he trusted, would receive consideration in the proper quarter, viz., that a lady doctor be appointed Superintendent of the hospital for women and children.

The CHAIRMAN then said that it would be necessary to make enquiries with a view to ascertaining what site would be most suitable, and probably it would be necessary to approach the Government, which, he trusted, would see its way to granting a convenient site. In this connection he pointed out that the Government had promised to give a site below, and as the Committee was now of opinion that the site was not a very suitable one no doubt they would be inclined to give another in its place.

Mr. JACKSON said that although it might not come directly within the province of the Jubilee Committee he thought that the attention of the Government might be called to the remarks in the letter from Drs. Hartigan, Stedman, and Rennie, regarding the fees charged at the Government Civil Hospital. He was of opinion that a universal fee should not be charged.

The SECRETARY stated that he would like to remove a misapprehension that seemed to exist on this point. The fees charged at the Government Civil Hospital were not, as Mr. Jackson had stated, universal, but were divided into different classes. The scale of fees had been increased from time to time and only as recently as December last the following new scale of fees, increasing the former rates was introduced:—

CIVIL OFFICERS.

	cents per diem.
Salaries under \$ 40 per month,.....	\$0.15
" from \$ 40 to \$ 60 per month, ...	0.20
" " \$ 60 to \$ 80 "	0.50
" " \$ 80 to \$100 "	0.75
" over \$100, as second class patient, ..	2.00
" " \$100, as first class patient,	3.00
" less than \$20 per month,	Free.

Wives of Civil Officers will be charged on the same scale.

POLICE.

Inspector,	70 cents per diem.
European Constable,	21 " "
Indian Constable,	17 " "
Chinese Constable,	13 " "

OTHER PATIENTS.

Private Patient,	cents per diem.
" 1st Class,	\$6.00
" 2nd "	4.00
" 3rd " (European),	2.00
" 3rd " (Asiatic),	0.50
" 3rd " ("), at the Hygeia	
Kennedy town Hospital,	\$2.00

Seamen,

Children,

Mr. EDE then referred to the desirability of patients being treated by their own private doctors in the hospital.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that that was a question that did not appear to come within the province of the Jubilee Committee, although of course, the matter mentioned by Mr. Ede appeared to be one in which the public were much interested.

On the motion of Mr. EDE, seconded by Mr. CRAWFORD, the following Executive Committee was appointed in order to facilitate the conduct of business and to carry on the work which had hitherto been discharged by the General Committee.—The Chairman, the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Treasurer, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Hon. Ho Kai, Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mr. W. Danby.

The Committee then adjourned.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Thursday at the offices. Dr. Atkinson (Principal Civil Medical Officer) presided and there were also present—Hon. F. H. May (Captain Superintendent of Police), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous ordinary meeting and of the special meeting were read and confirmed.

THE PERIODICAL DISINFECTION OF PAWNED ARTICLES.

A long petition was presented by the Pawnbrokers' Guild against a proposal that the articles in their shops should be disinfected twice a year. The petitioners stated that they had given the matter careful consideration and had come to the conclusion that there were a great many objections and difficulties attending the disinfection of articles. Wearing apparel was discoloured and more easily worn out by the disinfecting process, and people redeeming them would claim compensation. Would the Government or the Secretary of the Sanitary Board pay that compensation? At present wealthy people used the pawnshops as store-houses, but if the proposal to disinfect was carried out people would refrain from pawning articles in Hongkong and go to Chinese Kowloon and Samshui. Two days would be devoted to the purposes of disinfection. The employees would have to give up ten days in getting the articles ready and twenty days in putting them back. So that altogether the employees would have to work seventy odd days during the year. The expenditure was very heavy and the cost of the licences was also heavy, and the using of seventy odd days would be a great injury to the business of the guild. Further, people wanting to redeem would perhaps have to wait thirty days before they could get their articles, and they would have to pay interest for those thirty days. Cost of labour would be increased as thousands of articles would have to be taken to the disinfection station by coolies, and perhaps many things would be lost. Only about eighty or ninety per cent. of the people using the pawnshops redeemed their clothes, and if the things had to be disinfected the percentage of people redeeming would be much lower, and the pawnbrokers would therefore not be able to get back their capital, and consequently would not be able to pay rent and other expenses.

The following minutes were appended:—

Mr. EDE—I think the difficulties in the way of this scheme are very considerable, and if the pawnbroking business goes over to Mongkok we shall have no security at all and less control over disease spreading garments than we have now.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—It is really a question of utility. Are the prospective advantages to be gained such as justify the somewhat arbitrary proceeding which will cost a great deal of trouble and possibly expense?

The PRINCIPAL CIVIL MEDICAL OFFICER—I have ascertained that there have been no complaints re injury to clothing during the process of disinfection at the Tung Wah Hospital. There, at my suggestion every patient's clothing that he wears on admission is disinfected, this occurring twice weekly. I am of opinion that the existence of smallpox and plague in our midst at present renders some such measure imperative.

The minutes having been read the CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE asked what was the evidence that smallpox was let loose when clothes were taken out of the pawnshop.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—It is purely presumptive evidence.

The PRESIDENT—The supposition is pretty well correct; it is a matter of common sense. The clothes are there during the summer months and they are taken out at the commencement of the winter, and the germs are then set free.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE remarked that there was smallpox in Canton and he doubted whether with the great traffic between Canton and Hongkong, the number of cases would not be about the same.

In reply to a question the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH said that there had been sixteen cases of smallpox this month. There were sixty-seven cases of plague last month, but he was not certain of the number of smallpox cases. There had been only one case of smallpox during the last five days.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE thought the disinfection of articles in pawnbrokers' shops was a big and delicate job. Unless there was a very urgent reason for it he did not think they should adopt it.

The PRESIDENT replied that the urgent reason was the presence of plague and smallpox in the colony.

Mr. EDE remarked that he foresaw many difficulties in the way, and in view of the fact that we were in daily communication with Canton—hundreds of people went to and from—he was not in favour of the proposal.

The SECRETARY said that from the 1st January last there were 157 cases of smallpox in the colony.

Mr. EDE thought that epidemics of smallpox came in periods. This, he believed, was the maximum number, as it was the third year.

The PRESIDENT said there was an epidemic in 1887, another in 1896, and there was one this year.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE enquired if the disease was considered epidemic now.

The PRESIDENT replied that there were more cases than usual and two districts had been declared infected.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE expressed the opinion that with the constant coming and going of Canton people the gain would be inappreciable. It was not a very nice job to interfere with a Chinaman's habits. He had no doubt it could be done, but the game was not worth the candle.

The PRESIDENT said the Board's duty was to consider whether the scheme was advisable in the interests of public health. As a sanitary measure it was advisable and should be done.

Mr. EDE—Theoretically, no doubt, but practically we should, in my opinion, fail.

The PRESIDENT—I move that the disinfection of clothing in Chinese pawnbrokers' shops in the city of Victoria shall be periodically carried out in October and April. There are sixteen shops altogether.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH said there could be no question about the benefits which might be derived from disinfecting articles in pawnbrokers' shops, but he was inclined to agree with Mr. Ede and the Captain Superintendent of Police that the advantages would be counterbalanced by the difficulties that would be met. If this scheme was carried out at the present moment it would be very like telling the ventilator man to make the window wider. The clothes were a small source of infection and there was a large source of infection in the thousands of coolies who went backwards and forwards from Canton. As there was no medical control over that traffic he was unable to second the resolution. If the Government were exercising all possible control to prevent infection from every source this door also might be closed, but while there were so many other doors open the best thing the Board could do was to postpone action until a future day.

The resolution not being seconded fell to the ground.

COMPENSATION FOR DESTROYED INFECTED ARTICLES.

At the last ordinary meeting the Board recommended the Government to grant compensation to a shopkeeper in First Street on whose premises there were two cases of plague. His goods were ordered to be destroyed and it was for these goods that the compensation was recommended.

The Government authorised the payment. The Officer administering the Government forwarded a minute asking if it was thought the

Government were going to pay for all infected property that was destroyed.

It was resolved to reply that this was a case special. Each case would be considered on its merits and it was not the intention of the Board to recommend compensation in all cases.

THE OUTBREAK OF RINDERPEST.

Mr. JAMES WALKER, manager of the Pokfulum Dairy Farm, wrote asking the Board for the lot on which the cow-sheds at Sassoon Villa are situated to be declared free and for the remaining portion of the lot to be declared an infected area. He pointed out that Nos. 2, 3, and 4 sheds had been empty for some time, and that 1, 2, 3, and 4 had been fumigated and thoroughly disinfected, while in No. 5 shed there had been no disease. The six European bred cattle had been removed to a distance of 500 yards from these sheds and separated from each other by sixty or seventy yards, segregation thus being complete. All the cow boys are and had been since the outbreak locked in the sheds and not allowed egress, while the cow boys had been locked in their respective sheds at Pokfulum as well as at Sassoon Villa.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH appended the following minute—I think that if the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon is satisfied that these sheds have been thoroughly disinfected and can state that the period of incubation of the disease has expired since any cattle contained in these sheds were affected, with the disease, the request might be granted. The Dairy Farm Company are no doubt just as anxious to save their cattle as the Board is to prevent the spread of the disease.

The PRESIDENT—I may mention that we have information from Mr. Ladds that there have been no further cases at the farm.

Mr. EDE asked if the burning of the carcass of the last animal affected had been successful.

The SECRETARY, at the request of the President, read the following letter:—

Government Offices,
10th March, 1898.

Sir,—I have the honour to report for the information of the Sanitary Board that in accordance with their instructions the last animal which was suffering from rinderpest at Sassoon Villa, Pokfulum, was destroyed at 10 a.m. on the 8th instant, and his carcass was burned under the direction of Sheik Ranjah, the man supplied by the Board to carry out the work.

After burning for twenty-eight hours the carcass was completely consumed at a cost for fuel, labour, etc., of \$153.70. Since then there have been no fresh cases.

I should be glad to know, in the event of any more cases of disease occurring, whether it is the wish of the Board that I should continue to destroy the carcasses by fire or if they consider that burial with quicklime will meet the requirements.—I have the honour to be, etc.

C. VIVIAN LADDS.

The Secretary,
Sanitary Board.

The PRESIDENT—It seems to me to be a pretty expensive business.

Mr. EDE—Burial with quicklime is the best.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—I got the man and he estimated the cost would be \$40 and that it would take twelve hours to burn the carcass.

The SECRETARY said that the quantity of fuel the man first asked for would not have consumed half the carcass.

Mr. EDE moved that the animals be buried with quicklime in a place selected for the purpose.

The PRESIDENT said that some time ago there was an epidemic of rinderpest in Ayrshire, Scotland. The cattle were buried in a field, which was walled in. The field was re-opened about five years afterwards and in three months there was a fresh outbreak of rinderpest amongst the cattle, showing that the disease germs were in the soil all the time.

Mr. EDE said that in Japan carcasses were burnt in the crematoriums for \$1.50 each.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE said the skin of the carcass should be first removed.

Mr. EDE withdrew his resolution and it was decided to continue the burning process should any more cases occur.

It was resolved to grant the application of the Manager of the Dairy Farm.

THE CONTROL OF INFECTED AREAS.

The question raised at the last meeting—as to whether the Board could prevent persons from leaving a place which had been declared infected under the provisions of by-law 12 of Schedule A of Ordinance 17 of 1887 having been referred to the Crown Solicitor for his opinion, the papers were again laid on the table.

The following minutes were appended:—

The CROWN SOLICITOR—I am of opinion that the words of by law No. 12, "And take such steps to prevent the spread of disease as it deems necessary" would entitle the Board to forbid the movement of persons into, within, or out of an infected place or area. Section 2 of Ordinance 17 of 1887, under which the Governor in Council has power to make by-laws, appears to me to restrict the powers of the Sanitary Board, and I doubt whether the above words, "And take such steps to prevent the spread of disease as it deems necessary" are justified by sub-section 3, of Section 17 of 1887. The words used there are, "Authorising the Sanitary Board to declare places to be infected with disease, and to prohibit the removal of any animal, fodder, litter, utensil, or other thing from such place." Under the Diseases of Animals Act 1894, Section 22, the Board of Agriculture may make orders "for prohibiting or regulating the movement of animals and persons into, within, or out of an infected place or area," but a similar power does not appear to have been conferred upon the Governor in Council, under Ordinance 17 of 1887.

The PRESIDENT—But surely by-law 12 must have been referred to the Attorney-General before the Governor in Council. It appears to me that lawyers differ quite as much as doctors. Please consult the Attorney-General in the matter.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Please pass to President of Sanitary Board. I am of opinion that on reading the by-laws and the Ordinance 17 of 1887, on which alone their validity depends, the Sanitary Board has no power to prevent a man leaving a place declared to be infected with cattle disease. To enable the Board to possess such power further legislation would be necessary. But probably the Dairy Farm Manager, if requested, would take steps to see that people did not go into the infected area unnecessarily, and if care is taken to see that those who leave wash and then change their clothes, I cannot see that the Board can do more. If old clothes are destroyed (under Section 4) in disinfecting, they are to be paid for out of the public revenue.

A discussion ensued and the PRESIDENT moved that the Board recommend the Government to amend the Ordinance so that the Board shall have power to prevent people from leaving an infected area.

Mr. EDE seconded.

Carried.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

The report of the Committee concerning the enforcement of by-laws 6 and 7, schedule A, Ordinance 17 of 1887, stated that cases of foot and mouth disease continued to arrive in the colony, but they were not so numerous as at the date of the first report. This pointed to the gradual dying out of the disease on the mainland.

RECEPTION LAIRS.

A letter was read from the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon pointing out the need for reception lairs for cattle at Kennedytown, and it was resolved to recommend the erection of lairs.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 26th February the death rate was 29.1, as against 20.9 for the corresponding period of last year. For the week ended 5th March the rate was 22.2, as against 23.1 for the corresponding period of last year.

SMALLPOX AND PLAGUE.

The PRESIDENT asked the Medical Officer of Health if Districts Nos. 5 and 9 could be declared free of smallpox.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—They might be. The only thing is that if these districts were declared free I should be inclined to ask the Board to declare them infected with plague. The men who were engaged hunting for smallpox cases have found plague cases. Smallpox cases have decreased, but there are two or three cases of plague a day.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board then adjourned until Thursday week.

THE EXPLOSION ON THE U.S.S. "MAINE."

THE NUMBER OF KILLED AND INJURED.

An officer of the American Navy has kindly furnished us with further particulars concerning the terrible explosion which occurred on board the American armoured cruiser *Maine* whilst anchored in Havana harbour. The particulars were wired by the American Admiralty in response to a telegram sent by the officers of the American warships now in Hongkong harbour. The two officers killed were Lieutenant Jenkins and Engineer Merritt. Two hundred and forty men lost their lives, fifty-one were injured, and only nineteen of the crew of three hundred and ten souls escaped uninjured. Divers are now engaged in examining the wreck with a view of ascertaining the real cause of the explosion.

MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE.

The following letter and telegrams have been received by the Commodore Dewey, of the flag-ship *Olympia*:—

Government House,
Hongkong, 21st February, 1897.

Sir,—I yesterday received your official notification of the great calamity which has befallen the U.S. Battleship *Maine*, and write to assure you of the deep sympathy which in common with the inhabitants I feel for you and your officers in this time of national mourning.

The half masted flags of the British ships in the harbour show truly our feelings in this time of sorrow and loss.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

(Signed) W. BLACK,
M. General.

Officer Administering the Government.
Port Arthur, 25th February, 1898.
To Commodore Dewey.

I beg you to accept most sincere condolence from Russian Pacific Squadron regarding heavy loss sustained by the United States Navy through the explosion of the *Maine*.

Rear Admiral DOUBASSOFF.

Hongay, March 5, 1898.

To Commodore Dewey,
On board *Olympia* at Hongkong.

I have received at Hongay the confirmation of the news of the frightful accident which has happened to the *Maine*; I hasten to address you in my name and in the name of the naval force I command and beg you to transmit to all the officers and men under your command the expression of our most sincere sympathy on the misfortune which has befallen the gallant navy of the United States.

Rear Admiral de LABEDOLLIERE.

A CHINESE LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.

The following circular has been issued in connection with the proposed establishment of a Chinese library and reading room:—

Fifty odd years have passed away since Hongkong became a British Colony, but sad to say there has never been one genuine movement for the peaceful union of the educated members of the Chinese community (colonial born and residents) of the Colony in the cause of education, or for the improvement of their social position.

It is painful to think of this callousness and the lack of manly spirit and enterprise.

We in Hongkong had the first opportunity of becoming acquainted with modern civilization, and the world's progress, but, instead of seizing the opportunity to benefit and educate ourselves and others in the ways at our disposal, we remain indifferent and allow such Treaty Ports as Shanghai, &c., to take the lead.

Shanghai has now its literary and debating clubs, libraries, industrial, mining, agricultural, and medical societies, up to date magazines, newspapers, translated books, and numerous other exemplary works, the fruit of energy, enterprise and dogged perseverance. But where are we? Instead of setting an example we have been eclipsed by our Northern rival!

As the existing deplorable state of affairs should be remedied it has been resolved, as a preliminary step, to establish a permanent

library and reading room to be supported by annual public subscription.

It is intended to run the library on the same lines as those of the City Hall Library of this colony.

The library will contain Chinese and English books, translated works, and current magazines and newspapers (Chinese and English), and it will be enlarged as the funds of the library permit.

Books, &c., will be purchased, and donations gratefully received.

Objects:—(1) To improve the knowledge, (2) to further education and learning, (3) to translate and publish books, &c., (4) to encourage social intercourse between Chinese and Europeans.

Gentlemen who approve of this movement are respectfully requested to give their support, moral or otherwise.

TSE TSAN TAI.

Hongkong, January, 1898.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

On 1st March, 1898, the water in Tytam Reservoir was 18 ft. below the overflow, representing a storage of 256,600,000 gallons, while the water in Pokfulum Reservoir was 5 ft. 1½ in. below the overflow, representing a storage of 54,454,000 gallons. The total storage was thus 311,054,000 gallons.

The following are the figures on the corresponding dates last year:—

	Level	Storage
Tytam...	14 ft. 1½ in.	234,488,000
Pokfulum...	12 ft. 8½ in.	38,398,000

Total... 322,886,000

The total consumption for all purposes during February was 78,947,000 gallons, giving with an estimated population of 177,450 an average daily consumption of 15.9 gallons per head.

For the corresponding period last year the total consumption was 66,657,000 gallons, or an average daily consumption of 14.1 gallons per head for the population of 169,000.

The Government Analyst reports the water to be of excellent quality.

QUARANTINE AGAINST HONGKONG IN NETHERLANDS INDIA.

Mr. F. J. Haver Droeze, Consul-General for the Netherlands, informs us that the Governor-General of Netherlands-India has decreed that all ships or vessels arriving from Hongkong or having called at this port are subject to a quarantine of nine days from the date of departure from this port or since the last case of plague on board.

Importation into Netherlands-India of butter, eatables, rags, wool, hair, skins, or hides and furs arriving from Hongkong, either directly or with transshipment, is prohibited till further notice.

Any infringement of the prohibition of importation of the above mentioned articles into Netherlands-India will be punished, for Europeans with imprisonment, and for natives or Chinese with hard labour, for a period of from fourteen days to one year, or with a fine of between 25 and 500 guilders.

THE VOYAGE OF THE "COPTIC."

DAMAGED IN A STORM.

The O. & O. steamer *Coptic* arrived on Sunday last and has gone into dock to repair damage. The *Japan Herald* of the 24th February gives the following account of the voyage from San Francisco to Yokohama:—

The O. & O. steamer *Coptic* anchored in Yokohama harbour at about 11.30 this morning, twenty days out from San Francisco, and four days beyond her schedule time, having been due here on Saturday last. The explanation of the delay may be derived from an inspection of her forward deck, usually occupied by the forecastle, but which, in the case of the O. & O. liner, now no longer exists. This part of the vessel is simply termed the turtle back, carrying a breakwater to throw off heavy seas, also to protect the entrance to the crew's and other quarters underneath this protection. In its place is a confused, chaotic mass of broken iron and timber, bearing silent though eloquent testimony to the frightful violence of the seas over

which the vessel's splendid qualities ultimately triumphed. The damage, however, is not of a serious nature, as it is confined to the turtle back, or whaleback; no material damage to the main construction has accrued, so the vessel can proceed on her voyage to Hongkong, when the Yokohama cargo is discharged, with slight repairs. The weather during the voyage is described as the worst ever experienced on the San Francisco-Yokohama line, and this assurance, corroborated as it is by the dilapidated state of the forecastle head, can be accepted without mental reservation.

The *Coptic* left San Francisco on the 3rd February, at 1.44 p.m., and until the 9th had strong S.W. gales and high seas, which culminated on the 11th at 1 a.m. in a terrific gale from the west. Two tremendous seas struck the steamer's bows, and carried away and demolished what is known as the whaleback. Fortunately no lives were lost, and nobody sustained injury beyond bruises and laceration. The gale lasted two days, and the *Coptic* subsequently encountered a succession of westerly gales of lesser violence, against which she made splendid weather; of course in tremendously heavy seas her speed was considerably reduced to prevent confining any body of water on the main deck, which may have injured the steam winch pipe connections. From a distance, the havoc forward is scarcely visible, but once on deck a cursory examination of the damaged portion is sufficient to give an idea of the overpowering and destructive force of the waves. As previously stated, the whaleback has been reduced to a disconnected heap of bent and twisted iron beams and shattered timbers. The waves reached as high as the crow's nest on the foremast, the rails of which have also been twisted out of shape by the onslaught to which they were subjected.

On arrival at Yokohama the passengers presented the captain with an address expressing their unanimous appreciation of the admirable conduct of Captain Sealby and his officers during the perilous circumstances of the voyage from San Francisco to Yokohama.

ALICE MEMORIAL AND NETHERSOLE HOSPITALS.

The following is the report of the above institutions for 1897:—

Experience having shown that the accommodation in the Alice Memorial Hospital is sufficient for the male patients who require to be treated in the wards, and the former accommodation in the Nethersole Hospital having proved inadequate for the numbers of women and children seeking relief, the Sixtieth Year of the reign of Her Majesty the Queen was marked by the transformation of the latter institution into a Hospital for Women and Children only, the change taking effect on Jubilee Day, Tuesday, 22nd June.

A larger number of Out-Patients have been treated during 1897 than in any previous year. 11,513 individual cases have been prescribed for reckoning 8,948 return visits 20,461 consultations have been held in the Out-Patient rooms. There is also a larger total of In-Patients, 759, than in any year since 1892. Since the Alice Memorial Hospital was opened in 1887, 7,322 patients have been treated in the wards, 93,955, equal to nearly half the Chinese community, in the Out-Patient Department.

Mr. W. H. Whiting having resigned the office of Hon. Treasurer on his departure from Hongkong, Mr. Alex. Ross kindly consented to take his place. Surgeon R. T. Gilmour, B.N., has rendered substantial assistance both in the out-patient room and in the wards since the month of March; Dr. E. Paulun became a member of the Professional Staff in the month of September; and towards the end of November I took over the duties of Superintendent and Secretary from Dr. J. C. Thomson, to whom I hereby offer thanks in name of the London Missionary Society for his honorary supervision of the Hospitals pending my arrival in the Colony.

In February Dr. U I Kai, Licentiate of the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese, became resident House Surgeon of the Alice Memorial Hospital, and in April Dr. Wan Tün Mo, Diplomat of the Viceroy's College, Pientsin, assumed the similar office in the Nethersole Hospital. Both are proving them-

selves able and trustworthy in the discharge of the important duties that devolve upon them.

THE OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT.

In the Nethersole Hospital, a clinique for women and children only is held twice a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, at 10.30 a.m., by the Superintendent.

The number of cases during 1897 has been:

New cases	309
Return visits	420

Making a Total of 729

In the Alice Memorial Hospital, out-patients are seen by the various members of the staff as follows:

Medical and surgical cases daily	at 10 a.m.
Eye diseases on Tuesdays & Frid.	at 4.30 p.m.
Dental diseases on Thursdays	at 4.30 "
Vaccination on Mondays & Thurs.	at 2. "

The number of cases, including 417 vaccinations and 426 dental patients, has been:—

New cases	11,204
Return visits	8,528

Making a total of 19,732

In the Out-Patient Room, "First come, first served" is the rule, a series of numbered bamboo slips handed to the patients as they enter securing that no preference shall be given to either race or religion. Before the consultant for the day arrives, all new cases are registered and provided with prescription papers; and on the arrival of the medical officer on duty he is assisted by three students, who act as interpreter, clerk, and dresser respectively.

Having passed under due examination, the large majority of the patients either carry their papers to the dispensary, where three students are on duty, and there receive all needed medicines free of charge; or enter a small room for surgical purposes adjoining the consulting room, where they are attended to as their cases may demand. Such patients as have need of hospital treatment are passed directly to the wards, in the Alice Memorial Hospital or the Nethersole Hospital, as may be desirable.

THE IN-PATIENT DEPARTMENT.

Admission to the wards is usually through the out-patient consulting room, but cases of accident and acute disease and patients bearing notes of introduction from subscribers to the funds are admitted to either hospital at all hours of the day and night. No charge is made for medicines, clothing during residence, bedding, attendance, &c., and only a very small proportion of the patients are able to pay for their food.

The arrangement of the wards is shown on the accompanying plans. In the Alice Memorial Hospital men only are received as in-patients, and the three wards, Medical, Surgical, and Ophthalmic, have accommodation for fifty-three beds. In the Nethersole Hospital there are three wards for women and children with an aggregate of thirty-five beds.

The work done in the In-patient Department may be thus tabulated:—

In-patients remaining in Hospital on 1st January 1897	23	26
In-Patients admitted to Hospital during the year 1897	468	242
Total number treated as In-Patients	491	268
Of these there were:—		
Discharged cured	364	155
Discharged relieved	57	65
Discharged on other grounds	25	13
Died in hospital	14	17
	460	250

In-Patients remaining in Hospital on 1st January 1898 31 | 18 |

OPERATIONS.

155 operations under the influence of an anæsthetic were performed in the two hospitals during 1897, with results as under:—

Cured	116
Improved	35
Died	4

In these figures no account is taken of the dental operations, nor of a very large number of minor surgical operations, such as opening of abscesses, reduction of simple dislocations and of fractured bones, removal of nasal polypi and other small tumours, &c., performed daily in the Out-Patient Department by the visiting medical officers, the house surgeons, and the senior students.

THE EVANGELISTIC WORK.

Daily exposition of Scripture is conducted in the out-patient room in connection with every consultation, and in each of the wards there are morning and evening prayers with Scripture reading and exposition, while conversational work is systematically carried on among both in-patients and out-patients. This department of the work is under the supervision of the Rev. T. W. Pearce.

THE SAMARITAN FUND.

Mrs. Stevens desires to acknowledge with thanks donations of money to her "Samaritan" fund, as follows:

Per Mrs. Martlew	£48.00
" Willoughby	25.00
" Smith, Dublin	£2.0.0= 19.85
Johnstone E. C. S. S., per Miss Jaffrey	18.30
Per Willie Merry	10.50
Mrs. Burton	£1.0.0= 10.07
Mrs. Anderson	£1.0.0= 9.30
Sale of Cloth	6.60
Allen's Fields S.S., Southsea, Per Mrs. Martlew	£0.10.0= 5.02
Mrs. Bateson Wright	5.00
Mr. C. W. Cooper	5.00
Miss Jones	2.00
	\$164.64

With this money she has been able to provide clothing for, and otherwise help, many of the very poor of those who have been in the wards, and the children have had their Christmas tree.

A leper girl who came to Nethersole Hospital seeking relief Mrs. Stevens sent to Pak-hoi Leper Home in connection with the C.M.S. Mission, where the child is supported by Miss Jaffrey's Class in Johnstone E.C.S.S.

She also requests me to acknowledge the following donations to her "Nurses' Fund": per Mrs. Willoughby, \$31.00; Per Mrs. Martlew, \$24.00.

To many friends who have sent other gifts she also returns her best thanks, and wishes it to be mentioned that fruit, flowers, toys, picture books, and old linen are always welcome and useful, and may be addressed to her at either of the hospitals.

ROBERT M. GIBSON, M.B., C.M.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LIMITED.

The twelfth ordinary annual general meeting of the shareholders in the Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited, was held on Saturday in the registered offices of Company. Mr. Hart Buck presided and there were also present.—Messrs. H. Humphreys, J. A. Jupp, G. C. Cox, A. H. Mancell, C. S. Sharp, W. D. Sutton, Captain Clements, and W. Taylor.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I will with your permission adopt the usual custom, and take the report and statement of accounts as read. Although our dividend for 1897 is 6 per cent. instead of 7 per cent. as in recent years, I think you will agree with me that the accounts show a decided improvement, inasmuch as we are enabled to pay a fair dividend to our shareholders from earnings, without encroaching on our reserve. The rent roll shows an increase over 1896, of \$4,370.69, and over 1895 of \$9,624.56, and will of course gradually increase year by year until all our property is developed and built over. I do not think I can hold out any prospects of a substantial improvement in the dividend until that has taken place, because we are expending large sums in building operations all the time, and it is hardly necessary for me to tell you while these building operations are going on the Company gets no return for its money and is as a matter of fact out of pocket to the extent of the Crown rents. Our principal work during the year under review has been the development of our Kowloon property. In our last report we informed you that we were building 8 houses at Kowloon and expected they would be readily let. I am pleased to say that these houses, which are known as Cameron Terrace, were completed on the 1st of December last, and were at once all occupied. We have also built 8 similar houses in Granville Avenue. These were completed on the 1st inst., and passed two days later by the Sanitary

Board, and as they were all let from the day of completion, the Company will get the benefit of ten months' rents on this second terrace in this year's accounts. In the latter part of last year we commenced building four first-class semi-detached houses which should be ready for occupation in September next. Three are already taken; probably the fourth will be before it is finished. On the 1st of January last, the Company acquired five building lots at Yaumati, namely Kowloon Inland Lots 751, 754, 756, 759, and 760. We have arranged for the erection of seventeen Chinese houses on Lot. 751, and as Yaumati is a rapidly improving district we have every confidence that this purchase will turn out a very satisfactory investment. In Hongkong we have acquired the two fine residences on the Peak Road known as Luginsland, which are next to our house St. Andrews, at a price which will give the Company a good return on the purchase money. I do not think there is anything more for me to say that will interest you, but if any shareholder would like further information I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

Mr. SHARP—I see, Mr. Chairman, the Company have bought a number of shares in the Dock Company, I presume that the amount is the actual cost figure.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Mr. SHARP—Why I asked that was this. There is no amount in your profit and loss account. I did not know whether that was in the nature of investment on fluctuations account.

The CHAIRMAN—Realized profits.

Mr. COX—The debentures, Mr. Chairman, did not appear in the account last year, they have been issued this year. Perhaps a word of explanation about that would be useful to shareholders.

The CHAIRMAN—Last year, Mr. Cox, we had a certain amount on mortgage—the amount was \$175,000—and we paid off the mortgages, and issued debentures.

Mr. SHARP—These debentures are 6 per cent?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, 6 per cent. Of course, I may say it was an advantage to the Company; we gained interest by doing this.

No further questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and statement of accounts as presented.

Mr. COX seconded.

Carried.

Mr. MANCELL—I beg to propose the re-election of Mr. Fullarton Henderson as auditor for the ensuing year.

Mr. SUTTON seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That, gentlemen, concludes the business of the meeting. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday. Thank you for your attendance.

HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LIMITED.

The fourteenth ordinary general meeting of the Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited, was held on Monday in the offices of the General Managers (Messrs. Shewan, Tomes and Co.). Mr. R. Shewan presided and there were also present:—Messrs. D. Gillies, J. H. Lewis and A. J. Raymond (Consulting Committee), G. H. Potts, E. S. Kelly, Fullarton Henderson, W. S. Bailey and Fung Wa Chuen.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts have been before you for some days, so it is not necessary to read them now. We propose to place \$10,490 to reserve, thereby raising that fund to \$11,000, and to pay the same dividend as last year, viz., 20 per cent., absorbing a further \$50,000, leaving \$9,377.31 to be carried forward to the credit of next year's account. The result is a better one than we anticipated, and we can only hope that 1898 may show no falling off. To keep up with our increased production we have been looking round for fresh outlets for our rope, but if we succeed in this, as we have no doubt we shall, you must not forget, that in order to get into and push sales on new markets, we must be prepared to accept lower prices at first, until our make has gained a footing for itself, and can command full figures. As men-

tioned in the report, we are experiencing the effect of competition in Japan, where there is some sentimental prejudice in favour of the home-made article, but we can hardly believe that steamer Companies there will long continue to use inferior rope from any such feeling as this, and we have no doubt that the admittedly better quality of our article will make itself felt in time. The plant, machinery, and buildings are all in excellent order, and are well and carefully looked after by your Superintendent, Mr. Klinck, and his staff. In that and every other respect I can say from my own knowledge, as well as from the testimony of others, that our factory compares very favourably with the best and most modern at home or in the United States. There is little, I think, in the accounts that requires explanation. The amount of \$7,498.18 due from sundry debtors has all been since collected, and that of \$6,694.20 due to sundry creditors is now reduced to about \$3,000, which will probably all be paid off in the next few days. The item of \$30 at credit of reserve fund last year was raised to present figure, \$510, by the addition of further uncollected dividends. Our investments in local stocks stand in our books well within the market value to-day and yield us a good return on the money. I may explain that the item of \$5,420.86, interest and dividends, would have been about the same as last year, but that one dividend amounting to \$1,500, was only collected after these accounts were closed. This is all that occurs to me to say to you, gentlemen, but if any of you have any questions to ask, I shall be glad if you will do so before I proceed to move the adoption of the report and accounts.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN said—I now propose that the report and accounts for 1897 as presented to this meeting be adopted and passed.

Mr. POTTS seconded.

Carried.

Mr. KELLY proposed the re-election of Messrs. Gillies, Lewis, Raymond, and Shewan to the Consulting Committee.

Mr. BAILEY seconded.

Carried.

Mr. GILLIES proposed the re-election of Messrs. Arnold and Henderson as Auditors.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUEN seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow morning.

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the fifteenth Ordinary General Meeting, to be held at the Office of the General Managers, on Monday, 21st March, at 11 o'clock a.m.:—

Annexed we beg to submit to Shareholders the usual annual statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1897.

The net profit, including the balance from last year, amounts to \$64,932.90 which it is proposed to deal with as follows, viz:—

To place to Reserve Fund ... \$ 25,000.00.
To pay a dividend of 15 per cent. ... 37,500.00.
To carry forward to next year's account ... 2,432.90.

This result is an improvement upon that of last year and is especially satisfactory as the Company has had to face a heavy increase in the cost of fuel during the past twelve months. Each steamer has undergone her usual annual overhaul and is in first class order.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Mr. J. H. Lewis was appointed in the place of Mr. Ezekiel, and Mr. R. Shewan was re-appointed to the Committee on his return to the colony in place of Mr. C. A. Tomes.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Messrs. Gillies, Siebs, Lewis, and Shewan all retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. J. H. Cox and T. Arnold, who are eligible for re-election.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.
General Managers.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1898.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

	\$	c.
Consulting Committee	2,000.00	
Auditors' fees	300.00	
Charges account	1,640.95	
Amount written off for depreciation 1897	25,000.00	
Amount transferred from bad & doubtful debts	733.39	
Balance	64,932.90	
	\$94,607.24	

Balance brought forward from 1896	\$ 4,485.52
Profit on working s.s. <i>Esmeralda</i> and <i>Zafiro</i>	85,289.56
Profit on stores	90.45
Dividend on fractional certificates	12.00
Interest and dividends on investments	3,987.83
Exchange	741.88
	\$94,607.24

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Capital 5,000 shares at \$50 paid up	250,000.00	
Reserve fund	35,000.00	
Underwriting account	8,134.96	
Sundry creditors	26,567.52	
Due to General Managers	4,890.00	
Balance of profit and loss account	64,932.90	
	\$389,025.38	

ASSETS.

	\$	c.
Value of Company's steamers <i>Esmeralda</i> and <i>Zafiro</i> , as per last statement	\$195,000.00	
Less depreciation written off	25,000.00	
	170,000.00	
Value of buoys and moorings at Amoy and Hongkong, as per last statement	100.00	
Value of coals on hand	1,240.00	
Value of stores on hand	807.77	
Premium value of unexpired policies	10,097.24	
Outstanding freight 1897	35,950.24	
Sundry debtors	31,529.42	
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	63,204.32	
Cash on hand	5,763.89	
Investments in shares at cost	70,332.50	
200 shares Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited		
100 shares China Traders Insurance Co., Ltd.		
120 shares Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited		
100 shares Douglas Steamship Co., Limited		
137 shares Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Limited		
	\$389,025.38	

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the ninth Ordinary General Meeting to be held at the Office of the General Managers on Tuesday, 22nd March, at noon:—

Annexed we have the pleasure to lay before shareholders a statement of accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December, 1897.

The net profit, including the amount brought forward from the previous year, amounts to \$58,738.31, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

To place to Reserve Fund in accordance with the Articles of Association \$ 1,000.00
To pay a Dividend at the rate of 25 per cent. per annum
On the old Shares, \$10 paid up, from 1st January, 1897, 12 months and
On the New Shares, \$2.50 paid up, from 2nd August, 1897, say 5 Months, absorbing on the old Shares 50,000.00
Absorbing on the new Shares 7,497.40
This will leave 240.91

to be carried forward, in addition to which there will be an amount of \$2,604.17 placed to the credit of 1898 account being the dividend on the 10,000 new shares registered in the name of the General Managers.

The year's working has been seriously interfered with by the heavy rise in the cost of coal and coke. The output of the factory, we are glad to say, has been still further raised, but sales, owing no doubt to the high prices now ruling, consequent upon the increased cost of production, have fallen off. The net result is, however, still very satisfactory and shows a decided gain upon last year's figures.

At Macao the new kiln has given a good deal of trouble in various ways, and its working

has suffered from the peculiar conditions of this climate, but these difficulties are being gradually overcome, the output is increasing and we are still of opinion that with time and experience we shall be able to use this kiln to great advantage.

The Deep Water Bay Works give a poor result although both the production and the sales show an improvement. This is accounted for by the advance in cost of fuel, which has fully offset any increase we were able to effect in the price of the goods.

The new works at Hok On have made good progress and the site is now nearly all levelled and will be ready for commencing the foundations in about a month from now.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Mr. A. P. MacEwen was invited to join the Committee and Mr. R. Shewan was reappointed on his return to the Colony in place of Mr. C. A. Tomes. In accordance with the Articles of Association Messrs. Ewens, Orange, Li Sing, Chater, and MacEwen retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. F. Henderson and Jas. H. Cox, who are recommended for re-election.

SHEWAN TOMES & Co.
General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th March, 1898.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st DECEMBER, 1897.	
Consulting Committee's fees	\$ 1,500.00
Auditors' fees	400.00
Interest	590.48
Depreciation for 1897	13,854.66
Balance	58,738.31
	<u>\$75,083.45</u>

Balance brought forward from 1896	\$ 7,117.12
Balance of Macao working account	87,018.90
Balance of Deep Water Bay working account	947.43
	<u>\$75,083.45</u>

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital—			
20,000 shares at \$10 fully paid up	200,000.00		
28,790 shares at \$2½ fully paid up	71,975.00		
		271,975.00	
Reserve fund		9,975.00	
Debentures drawn but not presented		1,600.00	
Due to General Managers		6,725.81	
Sundry creditors		10,811.55	
Balance of profit and loss account		58,738.31	
		<u>\$441,825.46</u>	

ASSETS.

Macao works—		\$	c.
Buildings and machinery as per last statement	172,895.41		
Cost of Schofer Kiln \$15,776.58			
Less amount written off for 1896	5,000.00		
		10,776.58	
New machinery		9,914.68	
		<u>193,586.70</u>	
Less depreciation for 1897	11,786.70		
		181,800.00	
Cement, raw material, &c. in stock		76,060.13	
Cement on consignment		8,430.00	
Less advances		4,056.05	
		<u>4,373.95</u>	
Amount paid on account Hok On works to date		31,558.90	
Deep Water Bay works—			
Cost of land, buildings, machinery, &c. as per last statement	24,813.99		
Cost of new office, store, coolie quarters, &c. and machinery purchased in 1897		7,266.83	
		<u>32,079.92</u>	
Less sale of old machinery		1,000.00	
		<u>31,079.92</u>	
Less depreciation for 1897	2,029.72		
		29,050.00	
Bricks, pipes, raw material, &c. in stock		15,498.95	
Furniture		600.00	
Sundry debtors		16,442.70	
Cash—			
Head office		848.07	
Macao works		351.72	
H'kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	65,828.71		
National Bank of China, Limited	19,412.23		
		<u>86,440.73</u>	
		<u>\$441,825.46</u>	

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

The second ordinary annual general meeting of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, was held on Wednesday in the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. J. D. Humphreys and Son. Mr. Hart Buck presided and there were also present—Messrs. C. Ewens (member of the Consulting Committee), P. Jordan, A. H. Mancell, H. Allen, W. D. Sutton, H. E. Pollock, Captain Clement, H. Humphreys, Alves, and J. A. Jupp (Secretary.)

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, I presume you have all examined the report and statement of accounts, so with your permission I will take them as read. You will notice we have adopted a little different arrangement in dealing with the assets in the account for 1897; the amount spent on the Eureka main shaft to the 31st December, 1897, now appears in a separate account under that heading, whereas in last year's report it was included in the account Eureka Mine. Olivers Property at last year stood at \$50,235.99. The amount of \$235.99 has now been written off, leaving both property accounts at the price they originally cost. I may explain that the amount \$235.99 was spent, when we first acquired the property, in some preliminary prospecting and stores. We have expended about \$13,000 during the year on the Eureka main shaft, which brings the total spent to that date to \$32,515.51. This amount not only covers the expense of the actual sinking of the shaft, but also all work intended for permanent use in the mine, such as winding, pumping and ventilating shafts, levels, drives, and cross cuts designed for the blocking out, stoping, and conveyance of ore to the surface. We have acquired during the year, on the advice of our mining manager, gold lots Nos. 105 and 308. A little prospecting has been done on the first of these and a reef of 3 feet in width has been found which it is estimated will yield payable stone. We must not forget in connection with the working account that we were only able from various causes to crush about 2,000 tons of stone for the whole year; frequent stoppages had to be made for repairing the old battery, and it was at last found necessary to erect a new one in its place. We did not commence regular crushings until the middle of April and the mill was stopped for the erection of the new machinery on the 20th August, and did not commence again until the 28th of November. As might be reasonably expected, slight alterations had to be made in this new machinery and then we were unfortunate enough to run short of water and the mill had again to be stopped. As far as I can make out we were exceptionally fortunate in retaining our water supply as long as we did, for the drought in the district is said to have been the worst they had experienced for thirty years, and a great many neighbouring mills had to stop work much earlier than we did. I am pleased to be able to tell you that our new mill is now working well and that we have a plentiful supply of water, and as its crushing capacity is now about doubled, which means that we can crush about 800 tons a month and our mining manager reports that he has an unlimited supply of payable ore in sight, there appears to be no reason to feel anything but confidence in the success of our mine. We received a telegram on Monday last telling us that at the lowest levels, where the reef is 8 feet in width, the quality of the ore is improving as developed. I take this, gentlemen, as very satisfactory news, and it appears to bear out the truth of the opinion expressed by the late Mr. Willmott that the deeper we sank the richer we should find the stone. Shareholders have occasionally asked us whether it would not be advisable to erect more crushing machinery. We must bear in mind, however, that only a certain amount of stone can be raised from one shaft and that if we put up additional stampers we must also sink other shafts to feed them with. This there is no doubt we shall do in the future, but I think you will all agree with me that it is wiser to feel our way at the present time and not extend our operations very much until we begin to receive substantial profits from our

present workings, and I do not see any reason why we may not confidently look forward to this result in the near future. I am leaving for the mines by the next steamer, and hope to be back in Hongkong by the middle of May, when I shall have great pleasure in meeting the shareholders and giving them a full description of everything we are doing, and I trust that before my return I shall be able to telegraph really good news. Before moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

Mr. ALLEN seconded.

Carried.

Mr. MANCELL proposed the election of Mr. W. H. Potts as auditor for the ensuing year.

Mr. Jordan seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That, gentlemen, concludes the business of the meeting. Thank you for your attendance.

The following is the report:—

Gentlemen,—We beg to lay before you the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1897, which show a balance at debit of Working Account of \$26,241.15.

During the year the Eureka Main shaft has been sunk to the depth of 300 feet. The reef has been cut at this level and promises well. The old battery being worn out a new 20 stamp Battery has been erected in its place and is working well, and the Machinery and Plant generally are now in good working order.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. W. H. Potts, who offers himself for re-election.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers,

Hongkong, 4th March, 1898.

BALANCE SHEET, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital account 15,000 A shares			
at \$5		\$75,000.00	
Capital account 200 B shares at \$5		1,000.00	
Capital account 44,800 B shares			
at \$2 50		102,000.00	
		<u>188,000.00</u>	
Accounts payable		7,715.14	
		<u>\$195,715.14</u>	

ASSETS.

Cost of Olivers property	\$50,000.00
Cost of Eureka mine	35,000.00
	<u>\$85,000.00</u>
Eureka main shaft	32,515.51
Gold lots 105 and 308	3,244.06
Works, buildings, and fixed plant	25,476.38
	<u>146,235.95</u>
Cash in H'kong & Shanghai Bank	\$ 3,143.55
Cash in hand	80.09
Cash available at call	20,000.00
	<u>23,223.64</u>
Accounts receivable	14.40
Balance at debit of working account	26,241.15
	<u>\$195,715.14</u>

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To balance brought forward		6,364.46	
To cost of mining and milling		54,430.94	
To general charges in Australia		5,285.60	
To travelling expenses and telegrams		3,966.64	
To legal expenses		450.35	
To application fees and rent of gold leases		471.93	
To Australian management and salaries		7,200.00	
To General Managers and auditors fees		3,050.00	
To office charges		3 6.95	
		<u>\$81,536.17</u>	
Cr.		\$	c.
By gold account, proceeds of gold won		50,808.79	
By rent of battery		2,292.62	
By rent of cottages and grazing fees		460.85	
By sale of tailings		218.19	
By interest		875.65	
By transfer fees		139.00	
By exchange		499.98	
By balance		26,241.15	
		<u>\$81,536.17</u>	

THE LAOU-KUNG-MOW COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report presented to the shareholders at the fourth ordinary meeting of the Company held at the Offices of the General Managers, Shanghai on the 9th March:—

The Directors now submit their report, together with the accounts of the Company, for the year ending 31st December, 1897.

The mill commenced work in April with 1,300 spindles, increasing to 23,100 spindles by the end of the year; night and day working was started on 1st November, the average number of spindles running during that and the following month being 18,000; the whole of the 25,000 spindles are now erected. The buildings, with some small addition to the card room, are capable of housing between 40,000 and 50,000 spindles; the Directors recommend that the gradual increase in the number of spindles up to the full capacity of the mill be now taken in hand, and a resolution to this effect will be proposed at the forthcoming meeting.

In order to provide for this extension of the mill, and to reduce the Bank overdraft, the directors will ask the authority of the shareholders to issue the remainder of the capital of the Company.

The profit and loss account shows a credit balance of Tls. 21,108.37, which the directors recommend be carried forward.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. J. S. Fearon and Mr. Do Kin-san have retired from the Board; Mr. J. M. Young joined the direction in November, and his election requires the confirmation of the shareholders. Mr. Korff and Mr. Chung Liang-yu retire in rotation as required by the articles of Association, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Mr. G. R. Wingrove again offers himself for re-election to the position of the Company's auditor.

A. KORFF,
JAMES M. YOUNG, } Directors.
ILBERT & Co.,
General Managers.

Shanghai, 25th February, 1898.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

Dr.	Tls.
To agency expenses	3,375.00
To directors' and auditor's fees	2,020.00
	5,395.00
To balance	21,108.37
	Tls. 26,503.37
Cr.	Tls.
By interest	3,367.50
By transfer fees	157.30
By premium on shares	1,873.61
	5,398.41
By balance of spinning account	21,104.96
	Tls. 26,503.37

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

LIABILITIES.	Tls.
Capital: Tls. 800,000, issued	600,000.00
Less unpaid calls	450.00
	599,550.00
Overdraft at bankers	194,263.52
Due to General Managers	2,898.09
Accounts payable	27,145.54
Balance of profit and loss account	21,108.37
	Tls. 844,965.52
ASSETS.	Tls.
Buildings	174,850.46
Reservoir and land improvements	29,85.76
Machinery and cost of erection	481,001.07
Property—Chinese houses and land	34,21.77
Furniture	2,574.50
Value of stock—	
Yarn	44,460.64
Cotton in process	5,435.92
Cotton and cotton waste	48,325.28
Coals	2,508.00
Mill stores	12,749.88
	113,479.52
Unexpired fire insurance	2,507.66
Unexpired rent	7,020.33
	9,528.49
Yarn duty passes in hand	133.35
	Tls. 844,965.52

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

RACE FOR MR. N. J. EDE'S PRIZES. SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH.

Course:—Markboat north of Cowchow and back. Handicap:—

La Cigale	allowed
Erica	22 min. 23 sec.
Maid Marian	24 " 7 "
Phoebe	26 " 43 "
Chanticleer	27 " 9 "
Meteor	27 " 11 "
Active	28 " 41 "
Capt. Taylor's Cutter	28 " 41 "
Ladybird	31 " 2 "
Sybil	31 " 41 "
Dart	32 " 13 "

The wind was from the north and light at the start, but increased on the way down to Cowchow. Phoebe went away with a good lead closely followed by Erica with Maid Marian and Meteor next. Chanticleer and Dart got away in the first flight but they could not go the pace. Sybil and the others were late at the start but on the reach down some of the boats passed through the fleet, La Cigale coming along in the hard wind.

The leading boats rounded the markboat, which had got somehow about half a mile to the south of its proper position, in the following order.—Phoebe, Erica, Maid Marian, Meteor, Sybil, the last giving the boat a very close shave, to the evident alarm of the crew thereon.

The wind was free on the way back and La Cigale passed all the boats but Phoebe, which kept the lead up to within half a mile of the finish, where Erica took the leading position. Maid Marian and Sybil also passed La Cigale and Phoebe, and Sybil at the finish pushed her long snout past Maid Marian's bow and got in second, half a length after Erica.

The times were:—

Erica	3 46 44
Sybil	3 47 1—First
Maid Marian	3 47 9
La Cigale	3 47 47
Phoebe	3 49 3—Second
Meteor	3 50 28
Capt. Taylor's Cutter	3 51 24—Third
Chanticleer	3 54 24
Dart	4 4 0
Ladybird	4 11 30

NINTH CLUB RACE.—6TH MARCH.

There was a very strong east wind and considerable sea in the middle of the harbour at starting time and only three boats in each class ventured out. The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round Kowloon Rocks, Channel Rocks, mark boat off Lyeemoon, Kowloon Rock, and Channel Rocks, all to starboard; 12 miles. The second class started at 1.20 and the first class at 1.30. The starters were:—

Second Class:—	Dr. Clark
Dart	Officers, R.E.
Payne	Mr. C. D. Wilkinson
Ladybird	
First Class:—	
Maid Marian	Mr. J. Hastings
Phoebe	Mr. F. H. May
Erica	Mr. A. Denison

The boats in the second class made rather a straggling start, but the three in the A class got off with the gun. Dart went away with a lead in the strong wind and sea and was soon about half a mile ahead in her class, with Payne next, and in the A class Maid Marian went to the front, with Erica second, the order at Kowloon Rock being Dart, Maid Marian, Payne, Ladybird, Erica, Phoebe. The same order was kept up to Channel Rocks, when the Maid and Payne both passed Dart, and Erica got in front of Ladybird. At the Lyeemoon Erica had caught both Dart and Payne, and these went round the markboat practically together. On the run down to the Kowloon Rock a stronger puff than usual carried away Payne's mast at the deck level, and she made the best of her way home under jury boathook and jib. On the second beat up Phoebe passed Ladybird but after that no other changes took place and a stiff race finished as under:—

	H.	M.	S.	
Maid Marian	3	46	52	first 10 marks
Erica	3	50	35	second 4 "
Dart	4	0	50	first 10 "
Phoebe	4	1	53	third 1 "
Ladybird	4	9	35	second 4 "

The total marks to date are:—

Erica	50	Ladybird	63
Maid Marian	52	Payne	41
Meteor	13	Dart	28
Chanticleer	6	Active	4
Phoebe	4		

POLO.

A game was played on Wednesday between Over Thirty and Under Thirty, the sides being—

Over 30. Under 30.

Hon. T. H. Whitehead Back	Mr. Des Voeux
Major Gawne	3 Mr. Nugent
Capt. McLachlan	2 Mr. Landale
Capt. Paton	1 Mr. Johnson

The two barb ponies brought from Malta by the 4th Regiment were playing and they made a marked improvement in the game. One thing struck me and that was with these ponies playing more attention will have to be paid to the rules to avoid accidents, and beginners should study their book of rules before playing in the game. Like most games, everything cannot be learned from the book, but ignorance of the rules absolutely prohibits a player ever being any use to his side, whereas he constitutes himself a danger to everyone, including himself. It was rather late when the game began. Mr. Whitehead won the toss and elected to defend the nullah goal. The game soon became fairly brisk and Landale, who was playing in good form, secured the ball and placed a goal to his side's credit. Ends were then changed and the ball soon found its way down to the over thirty's quarters (Red) but Nugent only managed to secure a subsidiary. The Reds now buckled together a bit and McLachlan, who was on a barb and hitting very hard and galloping well, secured a goal for his side. On change of ends Landale secured the ball on the throw in and running it down made a good hit, but only scored a subsidiary. The play was more even now and after some good runs up and down the ground Major Ganwe managed to dribble the ball over the line between the posts. This made Red two goals to Blue one goal and two subsidiaries. Finally, before time, Nugent made a very pretty goal for Blue and after changing ends the ball went out behind Red's goal at the nullah end as the bell rang. The ball was started by Red from the nullah goal line for the second quarter and Whitehead missing his hit out his pony kicked the ball and sent it into play, both he and No. 3 rode for the ball and tried at it, and as they apparently had accepted this as a hit out the umpire did not call it back, but unfortunately for Red No. 3 missed the ball and Whitehead's pony shied off and No. 1 (Johnson) on Blue's side dashed in and hit a goal. It was asked if this was a goal, and the umpire ruled that as the ball was sent into "play" with the intention of being a hit out it should score; neither No. 3 nor the back on Red's side should have ridden at the ball had they wished not to count it as a hit out. This is where the players defending the goal show their knowledge of the game. Had they not accepted it as a hit out the ball would have been called back. On the throw in Red were determined to retrieve their misfortune and made good attempts to score, but there was want of combination in their play. The back seldom followed up his hit and when he did No. 3 left the goal open; however, McLachlan took full advantage of being well mounted and repeatedly ran the ball down the ground and finally, after taking it rather round the ground, he hit a very good goal. Ends being changed the game was again alive and an "off side" being given against McLachlan, Landale took the hit and succeeded in following it up and scoring a good goal. Major Gawne ended the game by hitting another goal for his side. The Over 30 were the stronger team but they lacked combination. The weather was not very propitious, still there was a fair gathering to watch the game. Capt. Burney acted as umpire and Col. O'Gorman kindly kept the time.

ON LOOKER.

H.M.S. *Algerine* came out of Tungkadoo dock on the 2nd March and went to the Old Dock next morning to complete her repairs. Lieut. Commander C. H. Grafton, of H.M.S. *Redpole*, is to take command of the *Algerine*, Lieut. C. P. R. Coode, who is acting in command of the latter ship, going to the *Redpole*.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP FOR MARCH.

A fair average number of competitors entered for this cup, resulting in a tie between two of the members, but the scoring was not very brilliant, in spite of the fair weather prevailing during the three days set apart for play:—

Dr. J. M. Atkinson ...	103	14	89	} tie
Mr. A. J. McClure ...	105	16	89	
Dr. J. Bell ...	105	15	90	
Mr. E. A. Ram ...	102	9	93	

18 entries.

POOL.

Mr. G. Stewart ...	86	3	83
Mr. G. Millward ...	101	12	89
Mr. E. R. Morris ...	104	14	90
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple ...	102	8	94
Mr. E. A. Ram ...	103	9	94

15 entries.

The monthly winners of the Cup—9 at present in the colony—are notified that the final for possession of the trophy will play off at an early date; the draw will be posted in the Club house in a day or two.

The tie for this cup between Dr. Atkinson and Mr. McClure was played off on Thursday morning and resulted in a win for the latter: Commencing with an eight and winding up with the same figure his card shows 102 less 16=86. The members now left in to compete for final possession, Mr. Palmer having scratched, are Messrs. W. Taylor, H. W. Slade, G. T. Veitch, A. J. McClure, C. W. May, H. L. Dalrymple, W. J. Saunders, and V. A. C. Hawkins. The first ties must be played by 14th inst., and the second ties by the 21st inst.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE NEW POST OFFICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Anent the discussion now going on, I wish to put my spoke in the wheel. Personally I would prefer the Post Office to remain on its present site, because I think it most central. It has taken about five years to decide whether we needed a new Post Office at all. For heaven's sake don't let us waste another five years in deciding where the Post Office is to be, and perhaps another five years to build it. What is needed is more room, and the sooner the Hon. Mr. Ormsby is instructed to get on with the work the better.

There has been a great deal said against the Post Office lately, but with the inadequate accommodation they have I for one think they do their work wonderfully well. My firm put through the Post Office an average of about three thousand letters a month and it is very rarely we have any mistake.—Yours &c.,

DISPATCH.

Hongkong, 4th March, 1898.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I have read with much interest your very careful and well balanced article of the 3rd instant upon this much vexed question. Its effect upon my mind was simply to balance the pros and cons. Perhaps this was your intention. In the difficulty and uncertainty which prevails in men's minds, as to whether the present site should be utilized or the Post Office and Treasury be moved to the Praya, there is one certain and undisputed fact, that a very large outlay will have to be met. Has the colony this sum to spend? All seem to concur in the necessity for a new Supreme Court House. This is considered to be absolutely necessary. Its location on the new Praya site will also have many advantages, one of the chief of which would be the peace and quiet which would reign around it as compared with the noise and tumult of the Queen's Road. But is there an equal justification for calling for a new Post Office and Treasury?

The need of more accommodation is undeniable. Can this not be well obtained by the utilization of the present Supreme Court? All three of these buildings, which it is now proposed to raise to the ground, appear to be exceptionally substantial, and by no means wanting in fair proportion. The buildings are also very ex-

tensive. They have been kept in good repair, and it would seem that the Court House could be easily adapted to the present wants of added room to the Post Office, next door. Again, it would probably be found practicable to put an additional storey upon the Post Office and the Land Office buildings. This would not only give more room, but added light and air.

This arrangement would seem adapted to the present need. In a few years time, should the expectations of some people be fulfilled, that the present site of these offices may become too crowded for their convenient use, then a change might be made. The land on the Praya Reclamation will bear keeping, and pay well for so doing. The advance of the Chinese towards the Hotel will also increase rather than lessen the value of the sites of the present buildings. Thus there would seem no fear whatever of any loss, but rather that a gain would result. Moreover, the above suggestion if adopted would be a sort of compromise of a difficulty and difference which has unfortunately divided those who should, with all of us, be striving with all of might and means to promote unitedly the public benefit. Pray excuse this hasty letter. I had left my office at six o'clock and in passing the Supreme Court these thoughts occurred to me, and I retraced my steps to jot them down.—Yours truly,

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

Hongkong, 4th March, 1898.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In your leading article of the 3rd instant you say that I stated in Council that the resolution proposed by me, and which subsequently passed, committed the Council to nothing. This is entirely a mistake. What I did say was that the resolution left the matter of the purchase of Beaconsfield open. I certainly understand that the resolution passed finally settled two questions, so far as the Legislative Council of this colony is concerned, namely, that the new Law Courts should be built on the site immediately in front of the City Hall, and that the new Post Office and Treasury, and possibly other Government offices, should be built on the site now occupied by the Post Office and Supreme Court in Queen's Road.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

R. D. ORMSBY.

D.P.W.

Public Works Department, 8th March, 1898.

PROVINCIAL INDEPENDENCE.

It is well known that many of our difficulties with China arise from the semi-independence of the provincial authorities, who are appointed indeed from Peking and are accountable to the Emperor for their actions, but who in their own provinces are almost entirely independent of the Central Government, as long as they keep order and send up to Peking a sufficient portion of their revenue from time to time. Ever since Foreign Representatives were stationed at Peking, the tendency has been more and more to centralise the government of the Empire. The extension of the telegraph has helped this on, and the construction of railways will give it another good impetus; while every fresh loan that is contracted by the Central Government necessarily interests Peking more and more in the finances of the provinces.

A question has lately come up for solution, which seems likely to put a considerable strain on the relations between Peking and the provinces, and may lead during the coming summer to quite unexpected and yet very serious developments. It will perhaps be remembered that ever since the late war with Japan, the Central Government has shown itself very anxious to do away with the "Green" or territorial regiments, owing to their proved uselessness as fighting men in time of war. The utter decay, owing mainly to corruption and the canker of a long peace, of this branch of China's military organisation was realised at the time of the Taiping Rebellion, when the Government were compelled to enlist "Braves," or country militia, to fight against the rebels. Even then it was intended to do away with the "Green" regiments, but the Central Government was

deterred from carrying out the Imperial wish by the natural opposition to the measure on the part of the men and officers whom it was proposed to disband, by the objections of the provincial authorities to whom the handling of the pay of these regiments was a very important consideration, and by the fear, fostered naturally by the provincial authorities, that the disbanded officers and men would get up a new rebellion on their own account; and the proposed reform has been in abeyance ever since.

In the late war, however, the inefficiency of these "Green" troops was so glaringly displayed that the Central Government has had to look into the matter with renewed earnestness, and it began to consider the advisability of saving the enormous sum annually appropriated for the maintenance of this useless, and to a great extent non-existent army, and using it to pay for new bodies of foreign-drilled troops, for whom the Central Government has now to find the necessary funds where it can. Accordingly, as early as 1896 the Emperor issued special edicts calling upon the provincial authorities to disband at least one-half of the "Green" regiments as a beginning. The provincial authorities, however, seeing that the result would be that they would still have to find the money, but that they would not have the handling of it but would have to send it to Peking to be used in the formation of an Imperial army which would not be under their control, made a variety of excuses without giving a direct negative, asking above all to be allowed to delay the disbandment until more propitious times. Only two or three Viceroy or Governors made any serious attempt to obey the edict, and when they saw their colleagues in other provinces treating the Imperial order as a dead letter, they also stopped the disbandment of their troops; and in this state matters remained until the commencement of the present Chinese year. The troubles with Russia and Germany have seriously alarmed the Emperor, and he understands that if China is to preserve what independence is now left to her, she must have a reliable army; and accordingly he has sent another urgent decree round the provinces ordering the disbandment of the "Green" troops. It is stated that, having no valid excuse to offer, the Viceroys Chang Chih-tung of the Hukwang provinces, and Tao Mu of the Shen-Kan provinces, with Governors Wei Kuang-tao and Chen Pao-chên, of Shensi and Honan respectively, have sent up memorials which convey a flat refusal to obey the decree in question. In reply the Emperor, in a recent decree, has sent a peremptory order to the disobedient Viceroys and Governors to obey his commands within six months, or render themselves liable to impeachment as traitors to the Throne. It is a very interesting situation.

The financial difficulties of the Government are, of course, at the bottom of these troubles. As was pointed out some time ago, the payments that the Government have had to make in consequence of the late war have so crippled it, that it has had to reconp itself in the best way it can from the provincial treasuries. But the provincial authorities have no money to spare, without incurring the odium of increasing the local taxation, and now they are to have a portion of the likin diverted to the service of the new loan. Unless China adopts complete financial reform, with the centralisation that circumstances are making imperative, there will be very serious trouble in the near future, and it is very doubtful whether the necessary reforms can be adopted without serious friction between the Central and the semi-independent provincial governments.—N. C. Daily News.

COAL FOR THE RUSSIAN FLEET.

We understand that the Norwegian steamer *Pronto*, which left Shanghai on the 23rd February, ostensibly for Nagasaki, for which port she was cleared by the Customs, is really bound to Port Arthur with a full cargo of Cardiff coal for the Russian fleet. She is, in fact, chartered to make three runs to that port with 2,000 tons of coal, for which the Russians have paid a very handsome figure. We also hear that Russia has secured another large cargo of Cardiff coal in the South. If we are not much mistaken she will want it all ere long.—China Gazette.

A SPITEFUL ATTACK ON MR. KINDER.

HE REJECTS HANYANG RAILS THAT SNAP LIKE GLASS.

Under the heading "A Little Tin God," the *Echo de l'Inde* disgraces itself by making a savage attack, stuffed with falsehoods, on Mr. C. W. Kinder, the Engineer-in-Chief of the Imperial Railways of North-China. The trouble is this. The *Echo* tells us that: "It is known that the Hanyang Iron works, under the able direction of two Belgian engineers, Messrs. Ruppert and Bougniet, make to-day excellent rails, comparable with the best made in Europe." These rails have been passed by two impartial authorities, a French engineer and a German engineer, but Mr. Kinder submitted them to a test under which they broke like glass; and Mr. Kinder has had the audacity to suggest that in such matters H.E. Sheng should take the advice of a capable expert. This is too much for our contemporary, which gravely tells its readers that: "Mr. Kinder belongs to a missionary family, and we believe that at one time he followed this profession. Animated with a very natural desire to escape from this despised caste, he made his debut in lay life as a time-keeper or clerk of the works on a Japanese railway. Thence he came to China, where his career was brilliant and rapid—but undoubtedly less so than that of the loading ferry-boat man who was shot into the position of Admiral during the war of 1895. China being the kingdom of the blind, this one-eyed wretch" (Mr. Kinder) "exercised for a long time in the little domain in which he was installed an absolute and uncontested empire." Later on the *Echo* suggests that in consideration of his age and services, Mr. Kinder should be offered an honourable retirement as keeper of a level crossing. And it is in that capacity that the *Echo* recommends him to the Director of the new line from Hankow to Peking, Mr. Hubert.

It would seem that there must have been something very wrong with those rails, for their condemnation by Mr. Kinder to call forth such a tissue of vulgar abuse. We have not quoted half of it. As a matter of fact, Mr. Kinder is the son of Major Kinder, who was Director of the Japanese Mint. He learnt his profession as an engineer in large works in England and Russia, then came out to Japan, where he was employed under Mr. Boyle (of Arrah fame) on the first railways built in Japan. He came to China about twenty years ago; and is responsible for all the existing railways in China, all of which are working profitably. But the speculative gentlemen who are exploiting H.E. Sheng object to him apparently because he does not waste his time in talking about the big things he is going to do.

It may perhaps be mentioned that the Hanyang rails, equal as we are assured, they are to the best European manufacture, are not used for the Woosung railway.—*N. C. Daily News*.

TRAMWAYS FOR SHANGHAI.

The Municipal Council of Shanghai has given notice that at the annual meeting it proposes to bring forward the following motion:—"That the Council be and is hereby authorised to consider the expediency of the establishment of a system of electric tramways in the streets of the Settlement and in its discretion to formulate a scheme for ratification by the ratepayers by which the system be carried into effect."

THE NEW LOAN.

Shanghai, 3rd March.

The contract for the new loan was signed on Tuesday at Peking, and the likin in the Yangtze Valley provinces and Chékiang is to be collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs. While this will add enormously to Sir Robert Hart's work and responsibility, it is the inauguration of a reform that will be of the greatest benefit to China. When the Peking Government finds what an honest collection of likin in Central China really means, it will assuredly be anxious to extend the system to the remainder of the Empire, and this should be the beginning of the long-hoped-for financial reform without adopting which China cannot hope

to preserve her independence. It will need a skilful hand and great tact to formulate and put in action the regulations that this new system will require, and there could be no more experienced person found than Sir Robert Hart to undertake this and carry it through. All who are really friends of China will hear with great relief and satisfaction that the new loan has been settled on the terms that we have mentioned. China's external troubles are at an end for the present; we must hope that the means by which they have been removed will not become the origin of any internal troubles, but that she will have the necessary time given her for reform and reorganisation, and that her rulers will have the sense to take advantage of the respite that has been granted her.—*N. C. Daily News*.

We understand that China only gets 85 per cent. of the face value of the £16,000,000 loan, while the issuing banks had to allow 2 per cent. for underwriting to the combinations of capitalists who took it up at 88 per cent., the Banks thus clearing 3 per cent. less underwriting expenses. So China pays 19½ per cent. the first year and 4½ at 85 for the remaining period of the loan, or almost 5.8 per cent. Thus instead of receiving £16,000,000 China actually gets £13,600,000.—*China Gazette*.

THE ACCIDENT TO THE P. & O. STEAMER "BORNEO."

According to the *Japan Herald's* account, it was while the P. & O. steamer *Borneo* was leaving the harbour of Yokohama, outward bound, at about 6.30 a.m. on Sunday, 20th February, that she was run into on the starboard quarter by the Japanese steamer *Wayomaru*, an accident which resulted in serious damage to both vessels, and will necessitate the detention of the P. & O. boat some twenty-one days in port, before repairs can be effected. Among the passengers for Europe on board at the time were Mrs. A. H. Dare and family, Mrs. Bowdon, and her two sons, Mrs. E. B. S. Edwards and daughter.

The *Borneo* left the wharf about 6.30, daylight. The wind was blowing strongly down, north by west. Several steamers were moored in close proximity to the Pier, and in consequence great care had to be used in piloting the vessel clear of shipping until the Harbour mouth was opened up—a very difficult matter considering the confined space in which to handle a 4,000-ton steamer with little cargo on board. Nearing the entrance to the exit of the Harbour (i.e. between the two lighthouses) the Captain of the *Borneo* observed that a vessel was approaching the entrance at a high rate of speed, and in consequence of this gave the usual signal by blasts on the whistle to notify her that his steamer was not under control in so far that if he had to go astern he would foul two or more steamers anchored near the entrance. Then to avoid damage the engines were put full speed ahead to make the passage through the breakwater as far north of east and west as possible, in order to allow the incoming steamer plenty of room in the confined entrance. The steamer *Argyll* was at the same time coming in, and seeing the entrance blocked up, stopped, and it is reported that she anchored on observing that the *Wayomaru* was also making her way towards the entrance. The collision occurred close to the North or red Lighthouse; in fact if the *Borneo* had not been going full speed ahead at the time she would have been struck in the midship-saloon, where the passengers were sleeping, and great credit is therefore due to Captain Lyon in avoiding what might have been a serious disaster to life. This accident shows clearly that Japanese Captains should be given instructions that all outgoing steamers are entitled to the right of way when trying to get clear of shipping and making for the entrance to this confined harbour. Our contemporary is of opinion that a strict inquiry should be held to ascertain why there are no Harbour regulations calculated to give navigators some idea of how to handle their vessels in leaving or entering the port. The damage to both vessels is estimated at about \$40,000.

Further details of the collision show that the *Borneo* was struck on the starboard side aft of No. 3 hatch, cutting through the bulwarks and bending in the plates of the latter some fifteen

feet down the side. After the *Wayo* first struck she slid off and struck the *Borneo* again about 20 feet further aft, slightly bending some more plates, and carrying away several port holes. The *Borneo* went on her course and dropped anchor a short way outside the breakwater. The *Wayo* proceeded to her anchorage. The stem of the *Wayo* suffered badly, being torn away from the plates and hung over about 5 feet from the top. The *Wayo* made water and would probably have sunk if it had not been for the forward bulkhead. The *Borneo* returned to the harbour the same morning, and in anchoring lost her starboard anchor through the cable parting, and was obliged to steam to one of the N.Y.K. buoys. The crash of the collision was quite audible from the Pier.

JAPANESE OFFICERS FOR THE CHINESE ARMY.

Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, according to a letter received from Wuchang on Wednesday, has appointed six of his most promising young military officers to go as a Military Commission to Japan for the purpose of studying the military system of that country. It is not unlikely that as a result of the Commission a number of Japanese officers will be invited to come over to China to give the benefit of their knowledge to the military organisation of the Liang Hu provinces. It is also reported that the Viceroy has been strongly advised to employ Japanese in preference to German military instructors for his new disciplined army.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE DEFENCE OF CHINA.

The following disposition of the Imperial forces in the event of war with a foreign Power has been determined upon by the Imperial Grand Council of War at Peking, and sanctioned by special Imperial decree:—

Liu Kun-yi, Viceroy of the Liangkiang provinces, will be Generalissimo of the Army of the Yangtze Valley with head-quarters at Tsingkiangpu, on the Grand Canal, his northern outposts to be in the vicinity of Hsuehou, on the Yellow River, and in touch with the troops of the Governor of Shantung, Chang Ju-mei. He will then be able to co-operate with the latter in the event of reinforcements being needed north of the Yellow River, while, on the other hand, the said Viceroy will be able to guard the entrance of the Yangtze Valley from seaward, this being his special duty. To Chang-tung, Viceroy of the Hukang provinces, is assigned the duty of safeguarding the central portion of the Yangtze Valley, while the safety of the portion west of the Tungting Lake is entrusted to Tan Chi-hsun and Chen Pao-chen, Governors of Hupeh and Hunan, respectively. The waterway of the Yangtze River shall be placed under the care of Buang, Admiral of the Yangtze, with headquarters at Kiangyin. General Li of Anhui is appointed Commander-in-chief of the Nanyang Squadron and the troops garrisoning the places east of Chinkiang, including Tsungming, Woosung, etc., etc. The troops of Liu Kun-yi, Chang Chih-tung, Tan Chi-shün, and Chen Pao-chen shall be so disposed as to be able to converge upon Shantung if needed; and if the Capital be threatened they will join Chang Ju-mei, Governor of Shantung, to relieve Peking from the South, while Tung Fu-hsiang, Generalissimo of the three provinces of Shensi, Shansi, and Honan, will march to Peking from the West. To Kuei Chün, Governor of Kiangsu, Tê Shou, Governor of Kiangsi, Têng Hua-hsi, Governor of Anhui, and Liao Shou-fêng, Governor of Chékiang, are entrusted the duty of providing the and food supplies for the various army corps in the field, while also on them is devolved the guardianship of the various ports within their jurisdiction. We also hereby sanction the memorial of Liu Kun-yi and his colleagues in command of the various army corps, reporting the number of troops under them, viz: Liu Kun-yi, total 63,500 men; Chang Chih-tung, 48,000; Tan Chi-hsun, 18,000; Chen Pao-chen, 30,000; Kuei Chün, 24,000; Têng Hua-hsi, 21,000; Tê Shou, 26,000; Liao Shou-fêng, 28,000; Huang, Admiral of the Yangtze, 40,000, and Li of Anhui, 34,000 men. The German-

modelled Brigade at Woosung to be also under the special orders of the last-named General. Of these troops one-third are armed with breech-loaders, and the remainder with muzzle-loaders.—*N. C. Daily News.*

CO-OPERATIVE CARGO BOAT CO. OF SHANGHAI, LIMITED.

The annual meeting of the Co-operative Cargo Boat Company of Shanghai, Limited, was held on the 3rd March, when the report and accounts were adopted and passed. The report showed that the balance at credit of working account was Tls. 17,480.79 or Tls. 5,609.36 less than the previous year. An interim dividend of 5 per cent. was declared on August 5th last, leaving a balance at the credit of profit and loss account of Tls. 14,048.66, which it was proposed to appropriate as follows:—To final dividend of six per cent. (making 11 per cent. for the year), Tls. 6,000, to be transferred to reserve and maintenance account Tls. 6,000, to be carried forward Tls. 2,048.66.

SHANGHAI FLOUR MILL CO., LIMITED.

The Directors of the Shanghai Flour Mill Co., Limited, in submitting the statement of accounts of the Company to the 31st December, 1897, say:—The profit and loss account shows a balance to credit of Tls. 1,206.24, which amount it is proposed to carry forward to new account. The mill commenced working on the 1st December last, but up to the date of this report operations have been almost entirely of an experimental character. The machinery is now giving every satisfaction; the products of the mill being of excellent quality, are gaining daily in favour with consumers and it is anticipated will very soon command a good position on the local and outport markets.

SEA SERPENTS IN TONKIN.

Sea serpents have made their appearance in Tonkin waters—not one only, but a number of them. The gunboat *Avalanche* has seen them. The first occasion was in Along Bay, in July last, when one was seen, its length being estimated at 65 ft. and its diameter at from 2 ft. to 3 ft. A shot was fired at it from a distance of 650 yards, but fell short, and the creature disappeared. On the 15th February last, in Faitsilong Bay, several similar creatures were seen. Chase was given and shots were fired at one of them, at a distance of between three and four hundred yards, and at least two of the shots hit, but they glanced off without inflicting any injury. An attempt was made to strike it with the vessel's stem, but the serpent's speed was greater than that of the *Avalanche*. As soon as it neared shallow water, however, it doubled, which enabled the gunboat to keep up with it, and at one time it seemed as if it was going to be overtaken, but it dived and reappeared at the stern. The chase was kept up for an hour and a half and then had to be abandoned on account of darkness. On the 24th February two more of the animals were seen in the same Bay. The captain and eight officers of the *Bayard* were on board the *Avalanche* at the time. The account of the various appearances is published in the *Courrier d'Haiphong* on the authority of Lieutenant Lagresille, the commander off the *Avalanche*.

HONGKONG.

The situation in the North and the commencement of the rebellion in the Philippines have been sources of much excitement in Hongkong during the past week. There is as little definite known about the one as about the other. Prince Henry of Prussia and his squadron, to wit one ship a quarter of a century old and the other a cruiser, arrived here on the 8th inst. His Royal Highness has been well received and next Monday in consequence of his ship—the old one—going into dock, he will be the guest of H.F. the Acting Governor until the repairs, which are very extensive, are completed. The Diamond Jubilee Committee have abandoned the idea of purchasing Craigieburn for the purpose of a

hospital for women and children, but they have expressed themselves as in favour of the hospital being built on a high level. During the week the shareholders in the following public Companies met:—Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, and Olivers Freehold Mines.

There were 3,105 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 235 were Europeans.

The Rev. Samuel St. Aidan Baylee, formerly naval chaplain at Hongkong, has been appointed rector of Washford Pyne, Devon.

The Victoria Recreation Club proposes to hold athletic sports on the 2nd April, for which a programme of twenty-two events has been arranged.

Two shopmen in the Central Market were on the 4th March each fined \$25 or two months' imprisonment for being in possession of defective scales.

The maximum temperature last month was 77.2, on the 17th, and the minimum 46.6, on the 25th. The mean for the month was 62.7. The rainfall amounted to 2.52 inches.

A Chinaman was on Thursday fined \$100 with the alternative of three months' imprisonment for being in unlawful possession of three rifles, five revolvers, and a quantity of ammunition. The arms and ammunition were ordered to be confiscated.

Seventeen gamblers were charged at the Police Court on Saturday before Commander Hastings. They were caught by Detective Sergeant Gidley and his assistants in a house at 30, Aberdeen Street. The two keepers were fined \$25 each and the remainder \$3 each.

It is with much regret we have to record the death of Mr. E. Tomlin, who left by the *Yarra* for home seriously ill. Mr. Tomlin was the second son of the late Mr. G. L. Tomlin, of the Hongkong Civil Service, and was a "Hongkong boy." After completing his education in England Mr. Tomlin returned to Hongkong and obtained an appointment in the office of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, in whose employ he continued up to the time of his death. He developed excellent business qualifications and had the reputation of being one of the best shipping clerks in the Far East. He had latterly been stationed at the firm's Shanghai branch. Mr. Tomlin was prominent on the local turf as an owner of race ponies, and his early death will be sincerely regretted in sporting circles and by his numerous friends and acquaintances. He had ponies running at our recent Race Meeting, at which he intended to have been present himself, but on his arrival in Hongkong the doctors recommended him to go on to Europe immediately in order to undergo an operation, cancer in the stomach having declared itself, but it would seem the disease was too far advanced to permit of his reaching home. He died on board the *Yarra* between Singapore and Colombo.

The captain of the *Bayern* had an amusing experience on the voyage to Hongkong from Singapore. At the latter port the captain received mails for Prince Henry of Prussia and his squadron, and he was asked to hand them over should be meet the ships at sea. On Monday night the *Bayern* was nearing Hongkong when the captain observed two warships in the distance. Thinking they were Prince Henry's ships he signalled to them to stop and take the mails on board. The ships did stop, and no doubt considerable curiosity was excited on board by what was probably looked upon as a strange request on the part of the *Bayern* captain. A boat containing an officer and sixteen men was quickly lowered from one of the ships and she was pulled through a very heavy sea towards the German mail steamer, which was reached after a great deal of hard work. To the surprise of the captain of the *Bayern* there was not a single German amongst the whole boat's crew. They were all Russians, and they had come not from Prince Henry's squadron but from the two Russian cruisers that arrived here yesterday morning. Explanations of the amusing error were of course very easy, but the crew of the boat did not seem to relish the prospect of having to pull back through a lumpy sea to their ships, and so the boat was taken in tow of the *Bayern* and dropped when only a short distance from the Russian cruisers. The *Bayern* passengers enjoyed the fun immensely and they did not forget to talk about it on arriving in Hongkong.

The Committee met on Tuesday and drew the semi-finals for the Hongkong Football Challenge Shield as follows:—25th Company, S.D., R.A. v. Kowloon—to be played next Saturday, 12th March, at half-past four. Referee:—Mr. J. W. L. Oliver. G. Company, K.O.R., v. H.M.S. *Centurion*, to be played on Saturday, 19th March, at half-past four. The final will be played on 26th March.

We understand that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has approved the leave of the Colonial Secretary (Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart). Mr. Lockhart will leave for Europe on the 19th inst. And will be absent from the colony for about six months. The reason of his departure is due to private affairs. Hon. H. E. Wodehouse will act as Colonial Secretary, Mr. A. W. Brewin as Registrar-General, and Commander W. C. H. Hastings as Magistrate during Mr. Lockhart's absence.

Mr. N. J. Ede, who is shortly retiring from his post as Secretary of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, which he has held for the last twenty-seven years, was on Thursday presented with an address from the members of the Eastern staff of the Society, the address being accompanied by a souvenir in the shape of a gold watch. Mr. Ede, we understand, does not leave until May, but the opportunity was taken of the presence in Hongkong of Mr. Douglas Jones to present the address yesterday.

Shortly before one o'clock on Wednesday afternoon Mr. H. Cook, manager and secretary of the New Club, was found dead in bed. Mr. Cook was formerly the manager of the Mount Austin Hotel and in that capacity he earned the respect of his employers and of the visitors to the hotel. When the Mount Austin Hotel was closed he was selected for the secretaryship of the New Club, and in that capacity also he earned the respect of all who were brought in contact with him. His sudden death was at first supposed to have been caused by heart disease, but a post mortem examination disclosed the presence of an irritant poison, and an inquest will be held.

The following promotions in the Police Force were mentioned in Monday's orders.—Inspectors Duncan and Hannah, from second to first class; Inspectors Robertson, Baker, and Moffat, from third to second class; Sergeants D. Macdonald, Ford, and Cuthbert, to be third-class Inspectors; Acting-Sergeants Williamson, Withers, Collett, Gidley, Gourley, Coutts, and J. Smith, to be Sergeants; Temporary Acting-Sergeant Dymond, to be Acting-Sergeant; P. C. Ritchie, to be Lance-Sergeant; P. C. Clark, to be Lance-Sergeant; P. C. Hood, to be Acting-Sergeant; P. C. Rogers, to be Acting-Sergeant; P. C. Dickson, to be Acting-Sergeant; and P. C. Fenton, to be Lance-Sergeant.

The Russia men-of-war *Sissoi Veliky* (Sissoi the Great) and *Navarin* arrived here on Wednesday from Singapore or their way northward. The *Navarin* is of 9,476 tons, 338 feet long, with a beam of 67 feet, and was built at St. Petersburg in 1891, costing £772,995. Her principal armaments are four 12-inch guns each of 52 tons, and six 8-inch guns, and her speed is 16 knots. The *Sissoi Veliky* was built at St. Petersburg in 1894, and her displacement tonnage is 8,880, her length 341 feet, beam 66 feet, and horsepower 8,000. She cost £796,333, and her main arms are four 12-inch guns and six 6-inch weapons. It is reported that they are to remain here for the next two weeks.

Joseph Neubrunn, a harman employed at the "Land we live in" public-house, was charged before Commander Hastings on Wednesday with assaulting Stevens Dobbs, a fireman on a British steamer. The complainant's story was that he had breakfast in the "Land we live in" and afterwards drank two or three glasses of whiskey. Defendant and another man then dragged him out of the bar and defendant struck him across the nose with a bamboo. The consequence was that his nose was broken and he had to be treated at the hospital. The defendant's version was that he had to get the complainant out of the bar. Complainant struck him and made him so angry that he picked up the bamboo and committed the assault. The Magistrate fined the defendant \$25 with the alternative of six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour and also ordered him to pay the complainant \$5 compensation with the alternative of further imprisonment for fourteen days.

A Chinese dealer in Des Vœux Road was on Wednesday fined \$25 for illegally storing seventeen tins of kerosine. Inspector Duncan found the tins hidden under a bed in the shop.

Mr. Chas. T. Broxup, late of the Lancashire, Derbyshire, and East Coast Railway, left Hongkong on Wednesday by the *Yuensang* to take up the position of locomotive superintendent on the Manila railway.

The P. & O. steamer *Sunda*, which arrived on Saturday, brought on from Singapore the 38th Co. R.A. to Hongkong. The following officers accompany the details:—Major Close, Captain Warren, Lieut. Lewis, Lieut. Campbell, Sergeant-Major Stoker, Q.-M.-S. Lowry. There are 98 non-commissioned officers and men.

A man named Eric Kirk was charged at the Police Court on the 4th March with deserting from the 10th Lincolnshire Regiment at Singapore on the 5th April, 1894. The accused has been for more than a year employed as temporary light keeper at Gap Rock under the name of Hunt. The military authorities wrote stating that they did not want the man and he was therefore discharged.

At the Police Court on Monday, before Commander Hastings, a man was sent to gaol for six months with hard labour for stealing a clock, of the value of \$100, from the officers' mess of the Hongkong Regiment. The thief was introduced to the premises by a friend and unnoticed he picked up the clock and went away with it. Fortunately he was observed by a Chinese sergeant, who arrested him.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram giving the result of the February clean-up:—"The mill ran 26 days crushing 2,200 tons of headings yielding 260 ozs. of smelted gold. The Berdan pans ran 28 days grinding 26 tons of concentrates yielding 53 ozs. 324 tons of tailings treated by cyanide yielding 94 ozs. of bullion valued at 13/9 per oz.

On Saturday afternoon the Hongkong Volunteer Corps took part in gun practice at North Point. There was a very good muster of men. They left headquarters at 2.45 accompanied by the drum and fife band, and firing commenced about 4 o'clock, the target being placed out at sea. The shooting of the 7-pounders and the Maxims gave complete satisfaction to Major Sir John Carrington, Commandant, Captain Gordon, R.A., Adjutant, and the other officers, and after a short rest the return journey was made, headquarters being reached at about 6.30.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao	5,887,884	6,277,746
Shanghai and Hankow ...	14,058,839	17,809,185
Foochow	12,309,891	12,518,868
Amoy	685,651	589,478
	32,942,265	37,195,277

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	18,823,511	18,244,124
Amoy	15,861,506	19,022,415
Foochow	7,516,903	11,405,219
	42,201,920	48,671,758

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow ...	19,462,293	22,949,123

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	26,503,306	27,365,005
Kobe	15,602,288	14,777,490
	42,105,594	42,142,495

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 7th March.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—London telegrams quote market quiet, Blue Elephants 11/4. Gold Kilins are quoted from Lyons at Fcs. 23.25.

Raw Silk.—The market remains in an extremely quiet condition, and holders of Tsatlees stand out for very high prices. In Yellow Silks there is a good demand for Mienchow, but there is no stock here, in other qualities there is no change to report. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 26th February to 4th March: 238 bales White Silk, 18 piculs Yellow, and 143 piculs Tussah. Re-reels and Filatures.—Market quiet, no change in prices, a settlement of 75 bales Hand Filatures is reported at Tls. 557½. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 4,536 bales to America, 3,351 bales to the Continent, 45 to Japan and 22 to London. Waste Silk.—A further contract of 400 piculs Tussah Waste 1 and 2 (60 and 40 per cent.) at Tls. 25 average price is reported. Pongees.—A good market, and desirable parcels are quickly sold at full prices. About 2,000 pieces Shantung Pongees 19 in. by 18/19 yds. by 22/24 oz. have been settled at \$2.90 to \$3.05.

Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent.; Exchange 2/6½; Freight Tls. 7.45 per bale:

	Tls.	Stg.
	per pic.	per lb.
Tsatlees.—Bird Yungling	505	10 11
Hangchow Tsatlees.—Pagoda Tinghow	442½	9 7½
Yellow Silk.—Wongchow	285	6 4
Hand Filature.—Mars Chop	557½	12 0½

	1897-98.	1896-97.	1895-96.
Settlements for this mail	about 250	2,000	800 1,000
cluding forward contracts	63,500	53,000	68,000
Stock	6,000	7,000	14,000
Total Arrivals including	69,500	60,000	82,000
Steam Filatures			

	1894-95.	1893-94.	1892-93.
Settlements for this mail	about 752	1,500	1,000 bales.
cluding forward contracts	61,750	62,500	67,500
Stock	5,500	8,500	4,000
Total Arrivals including	67,250	71,000	71,500
Steam Filatures			
	Including old Silk.		

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	9,951	4,814
Canton	10,441	3,164
Yokohama	29,121	13,892
	49,512	21,870

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	45,826	41,114
Canton	19,842	19,737
Yokohama	18,005	12,944
	83,673	73,795

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 11th March.—The improvement has been maintained and prices show a further advance. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$45.75 to \$46.00. Sales, 400 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 11th March.—The market continues active and prices are advancing. Quotations are:—Shekloong, No. 1, White...\$7.37 to 7.40 per picul. do. " 2, White... 7.05 to 7.10 " Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... 4.95 to 4.98 " do. " 2, Brown... 4.85 to 4.90 " Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.30 to 7.35 " do. " 2, White... 6.96 to 7.00 " Swatow, No. 1, Brown... 4.90 to 4.94 " do. " 2, Brown... 4.80 to 4.85 " Foochow Sugar Candy... 11.43 to 11.50 " Shekloong " 10.04 to 10.08 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per German steamer *Bayern*, sailed on the 1st March. For Colombo:—2 cases merchandise. For Aden:—3 cases curios. For Genoa:—140 bales pieced cocoons, 102 bales canes, 80 bales raw silk, and 5 cases essential oil. For Genoa and/or Hamburg:—36 bales canes. For Naples:—1 case curios. For Antwerp:—300 bales broken cassia, 40 bales bamboo scraps, 40 rattan core, 14 cases preserves, 10 cases chinaware, 6 bales feathers, and 6 bales leaf tobacco. For Antwerp and/or Bremen and/or Hamburg:—20 boxes paper. For Antwerp and/or Rotterdam:—155 bales leaf tobacco, and 7 cases cigars. For Copenhagen:—2 cases private effects. For Stockholm:—6 cases curios. For Amsterdam:—47 cases preserves, 32 cases chinaware, 6 cases curios, and 4 cases earthenware. For Rotterdam:—6 bales leaf tobacco. For Bremen:—198 rolls matting, 8 cases preserves, 7 cases merchandise, and 1 case cigars. For Hamburg:—250 cases cassia, 184 bales canes, 11 cases

essential oil, 10 boxes vermillion, 4 cases bristles, 1 case piece goods, and 1 case books and curios. For Hamburg and/or London:—150 bales broken cassia.

Per steamer *Nestor*, sailed on the 3rd March. For London:—1 case silk, 21 cases effects, 31 cases cigars, 70 cases chinaware, 14 cases blackwoodware, 236 cases palm leaf fans, 5 cases feathers, 817 bales hemp, 67 bales canes, 50 rolls mats, 720 bags gum, 35 packages shells, 9 packages sundries from Foochow, 114 ½-chests tea, and 15 bales feathers. For London and/or Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For London and/or Hamburg:—300 bales cassia, and 60 bales feathers. For Liverpool:—1,450 bales hemp. For Glasgow:—25 cases and 50 cases ginger. For Beyrouth:—15 cases glassbangles.

Per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, sailed on the 5th March. For Liverpool:—50 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—175 bales waste silk. For London and/or Manchester:—180 bales waste silk. For London:—20 bales feathers from Foochow, 1 case cigars from Manila, 36 cases blackwoodware, 16 cases cigars, 2 cases silk piece goods, 4 cases curios, 2 bales sundries, and 550 rolls mats and matting. For France:—284 bales raw silk, and 1 case silk piece goods. For Milan:—20 bales raw silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 11th March.—Bengal.—The market has ruled weak and rates have declined. Current quotations are \$710 for New Patna, \$715 for Old Patna, \$705 for New Benares, and \$707½ for Old Benares.

Malwa.—Transactions have been very meagre during the interval. Latest figures are as follow:—New \$730 without allowance.

Old (2½ yrs.) \$78½ with allowance to ½ catty.

" (1½ ") \$800 " 10 taels.

" (6/7 ") \$820 without allowance.

" 8/9 ") \$890 with allowance to 3 cattis.

Persian.—There has been a fair amount of business transacted in this drug during the week, and rates have strengthened, closing quotations being \$490 to \$630 for Oily, and 540 to \$65 for Paper-wrapped opium according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

	NEW PATNA.	BENARES.	MALWA.
New Patna	310 ch.		
Old Patna	1,280 "		
New Benares	420 "		
Old Benares	440 "		
Malwa	240 "		
Persian	1050 "		

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1898.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Mar. 5	720	725	708½	720	730	
Mar. 6	720	725	708½	717½	730	
Mar. 7	717½	722½	707½	717½	730	
Mar. 8	717½	722½	707½	712½	730	
Mar. 9	715	720	707½	712½	730	
Mar. 10	715	720	707½	710	730	
Mar. 11	710	715	705	707½	730	780/800/820/840

RICE.

HONGKONG, 11th March.—The demand shows no signs of slackening, and prices continue to advance. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.95 to 3.00
" Round, good quality	3.36 to 3.40
" Long	3.70 to 3.75
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	3.00 to 3.10
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	3.80 to 3.85
" White	4.65 to 4.70
" Fine Cargo	4.85 to 4.90

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 11th March.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—50 bales No. 6 at \$79, 130 bales No. 8 at \$77.50 to \$79, 390 bales No. 10 at \$89 to \$91.75, 780 bales No. 12 at \$34.75 to \$91, 150 bales No. 16 at \$93 to \$94, 810 bales No. 20 at \$92 to \$102. Grey Shirtings.—300 pieces 8½ lbs. Japanese Girl at \$2.45, 500 pieces 12½ lbs. Blue Dragon at \$1.72½. White Shirtings.—1,500 pieces S. Q. at \$1.52½, 1,500 pieces S. S. at \$1.72½, 1,500 pieces Flower at \$1.97½, 900 pieces Gold Tiger at \$6.20, 1,000 pieces F. B. L. at \$5.25. T.Cloths.—1,500 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Gold Dragon at \$2.40, 500 pieces 4 lbs. Green Pagoda at \$1.37½, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican V. V. at \$2.97½, 1,500 pieces 7 lbs. Shoenikar at \$2.20. Camlets.—100 pieces 9 Old men assorted at \$17.75, 50 pieces Silks Scarlet at \$12.75.

METALS.—Iron.—100 piculs wire nails at \$8.10, 300 piculs wire nails, small size, at \$8.80, 1,000 bundles Basic steel iron at \$5. Tin.—200 pieces Foochowhai at \$10.50, 40 cases tinplates at \$6.20. Quicksilver.—50 flasks at \$128.25.

COTTON YARN. per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s. 72.00 to 105.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24. 109.00 to 116.00
" 22 to 24. 111.00 to 116.00
" 28 to 32. 122.00 to 127.00
" 38 to 42. 131.00 to 138.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS. per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs. 1.75 to 1.85
7lbs. 2.00 to 2.07
8.4 lbs. 2.50 to 3.20
9 to 10 lbs. 3.40 to 4.15
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.40 to 2.60
58 to 60 " 2.75 to 3.45
64 to 66 " 3.55 to 4.40
Fine " 4.35 to 7.15
Book-folds. 3.80 to 5.70
Victoria Lawns—12 yards 0.65 to 1.20
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. 1.55 to 1.75
7lbs. (32 "), " 1.90 to 2.15
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs. 1.70 to 1.85
7lbs. (32 "), " 2.10 to 2.80
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) 2.40 to 3.25
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14lbs. 3.75 to 5.15

FANCY COTTONS
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 7lbs. 1.50 to 4.00
Brocades—Dyed 3.90 to 5.00
Damasks 0.12 to 0.16
Chintzes—Assorted 3.08 to 0.14
Velvets—Black. 22 in. 0.20 to 0.30
Velveteens—18 in. 0.16 to 0.18

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.45 to 0.90
WOOLLENS per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.55 to 1.35
German 1.15 to 1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths. 1.15 to 5.25
Long Ells—Scarlet 6.50 to 9.00
Assorted 6.60 to 9.10
Camlets—Assorted 12.00 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 3½ inches, Assorted 11.00 to 20.00

Orleans—Plain 7.00 to 8.50
Blankets—8 to 12lbs. 5.50 to 12.00

METALS per picul
Iron—Nail Rod 4.10 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar 4.20 to —
Swedish Bar 5.50 to —
Small Round Rod 4.80 to —
Hoop 5.50 to —
Wire 15/25 9.00 to —
Old Wire Rope 1.50 to 3.00
Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop 8.45 to —
Australian 8.45 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/28 oz. 32.00 to —
Vivian's, 14/20 oz. 31.00 to —
Elliot's, 14/20 oz. 31.00 to —
Composition Nails — to —
Japan Copper, Slabs. 30.00 to —
Tiles 29.00 to —
Tin — to —
Tin-Plates 6.00 to —
Steel ½ to ¾ 5.50 to —

SUNDRIES per picul
Quicksilver 126.00 to —
Window Glass 4.20 to —
Kerosene Oil 1.87 to —

SHANGHAI, 5th March.—(From Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report).—The market has been exceedingly quiet throughout the week, the dealers refraining from doing business until news was received from Tientsin of the reception accorded to their first shipments. The dullness, however, has been intensified by the inclemency of the weather and the drop in sterling rates. The steamers left here early on the 27th February, the first one arriving at Tientsin on 2nd instant, that, apparently, being as far up the river as they could go. However, with the help of the railway Tientsin is easily accessible from that point and the merchants appear to have lost no time in placing their goods on the market. The total amounted to 48,688 packages, against 39,850 packages last year, the increase being made up entirely of Yarns, while American makes are 25 per cent less than the quantity it was expected would go. From the telegraphic

advice we glean that the demand is running chiefly on Indian yarns, cheap American Shirtings, and the lower reeds of White Shirtings, for all of which there is a better enquiry to-day, but available supplies are not plentiful and holders want higher prices in consequence of the fall in Exchange. There is very little doing for our other dependencies, and clearances have been much interfered with by the rain. Transactions reported during the week have been of a somewhat miscellaneous character and a fair proportion is composed of cargo afloat. The market is undoubtedly strong and sellers are gradually raising their prices, the Auction results, also, showing a decided upward tendency for Cotton goods, but Woollens are dull and dragging.

METALS, 7th March.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bialfield & Co.'s Report).—Of Metals there has been considerable enquiry, but with the exception of the lines quoted below no contracts have been closed. The feeling seems to be that much cargo will be needed shortly, but all are awaiting more definite advice. The following has been done:—650 tons Goffin Nailroads, 127s. 127/8, c.i.f., 100 tons Sohairs Nailroads, at 125s. 6d., c.i.f., 100 tons Cart Tyres, at 105s., c.i.f. 100, tons Cable Wire, at Tls. 2.40 to Tls. 2.50.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 11th March.—The market has continued active and a fair general business has been put through. Rates have remained steady except in Banks, which have been affected by the uncertainty of the political situation.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks in the early part of the week ruled firm and in good demand, shares changing hands in fair lots at 192 and 193 per cent. prem. cash and at equivalent rates forward. Later, however, with disturbing rumours from the North the rate suddenly weakened and sellers were forced to accept 187 and later still 185 per cent. prem. Only a very few parcels changed hands at these rates and with more reassuring, or rather in the absence of more alarming news, the market gradually recovered to 191, at which rate it closes with small sales. Nationals unchanged with no business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders, Unions, Cantons, and Straits are on offer at quotations without finding buyers. Yangtszes could be placed forward, but a few cash shares are obtainable at \$141. North Chinas have found small buyers at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's Fires continue weak and out of favour, sellers vainly offering to part at \$342½. Chinas have ruled dull with only small sales at \$101 and \$100.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao's further improved to \$28, with sales at that cash and end of the month; on time a good business has been put through at equivalent rates for April, May, and June; the market closes rather easier with sellers at \$27½ cash and at \$28 for 31st instant. Indo-Chinas have been in good demand and have changed hands at \$54½, \$55, \$55½, \$56, and \$56½, market closing firm with buyers at last rate. China Manilas have slightly improved to \$82 with small sales. Douglasses have changed hands at \$59 and \$60, closing steady at the latter rate. China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have suffered an unexpected set-back and have ruled weak. Small sales were effected in the early part of the week at \$175 and \$174, and later at \$173 and \$172, at which last rate market closes quiet with probable sellers cash, but with buyers forward at better than equivalent rates; sellers from the North and a little over speculation here appear to account for the weakness. Luzons have changed hands at \$41 and \$40½ cash and at \$44 for June.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled very steady with a fair cash business at \$6.60 and \$6.50, closing with sellers at the latter rate. Charbonnages have gone back a little with sales at \$145 cash and at \$150 for April, closing with probable buyers. New Balmorals and Olivers have been neglected with only a small business at quotations. Jebebus have found small buyers at quotations. Raubs have ruled steady with sales during the week at \$26½, \$26, and \$25½ in fair quantities, the market closing steady to strong at \$25½. Great Easterus quiet with small sales at quotations and at rather better than equivalent rates forward.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have further improved to 240 per cent. prem. with sales. Shares are wanted forward at equivalent rates but holders expect higher prices and refuse to part. It is reported that the Company is doing very well. Kowloon Wharves have changed hands at \$58 \$58½ in small lots, closing quiet at the latter rate. Wanchais are enquired for at quotation.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue quiet with small sales at \$74½. Hotels have improved and been in some demand; sales have been effected at \$51½, \$52, \$52½, and \$53, market closing steady. West Points have found buyers at \$20. Humphreys Estates continue on offer at \$8.50 ex dividend.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been in better demand and after a long period of inactivity have found buyers at \$15 and \$15½ for the new and at \$30 and \$31 for old shares, the market closing somewhat stronger at \$15½ and \$31. Watsons have found buyers at \$12, closing with sellers. Fenwicks are enquired for at quotation, also Ices. Ropes continue with small sellers at \$16½ ex dividend.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		[\$363.75, sales]
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	191 % prem=
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£3 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£5. 5s., buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$17, sellers
Founders Shares...	£1	\$17, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8.75
China Sugar	\$100	\$172, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 100, sellers
Hongkong	\$20	\$12, sales & sellers
Internati.	Tls. 100	Tls. 112, sellers
Lau Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 110, sellers
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 520
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 90
Dairy Farm Co.	\$6	\$5½
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$30, sales
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$31½, buyers
Do. New Issue	\$2½	\$15.75, sellers
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$120
Hongkong Electric ...	\$10	\$9½, sales
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$105
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$53, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$107, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$58, sellers
Hongkong Rope.....	\$50	\$164, ex div. sel.
H. & W. Dock	\$125	240 p. ct. prem.=
Insurances—		(\$425, buyers)
Canton.....	\$50	\$14, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$100, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$67½, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$340, sellers
North-China	£25	Tls. 118, sales
Straits	\$20	\$11½, sales
Union	\$50	\$222½, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$140, buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment.	\$50	\$74½, sales
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$8.40, ex div. sel.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$17½, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$20, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$41, sales & sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$145, sales & buyers
Great E. & C'donian	\$1	\$5.80, sales
Do. Do.	\$2½	\$2.90, sales
Jebebu	\$5	\$2, sellers
New Balmoral	\$1	\$1.50, sellers
Do. Preference ...	\$1	\$1.80, sellers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$19, sellers
Do. B.	\$2½	\$7, sellers
Punjom	\$5	\$6½, sales & buyers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.90, buyers
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$25½, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$10	\$17, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$82, sales
China Mutual Ord...	£10	£7 10s. buyers
Do. Preference...	£10	£5 16s. buyers
Do. Do.	£5	£2 16s. buyers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$60, sales & sellers
H. Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$27½, sales
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$57, sales & buyers
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$2	\$2, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2, sellers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Wareh'se Co.	\$37½	\$40, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12, sales & sellers

J. V. Y. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 7th March.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—Business has been rather brisker this week, with exception of Hongkong & Shanghai Bank shares. Bank.—Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares have weakened during the week, in sympathy with the Hongkong market. Cash shares were placed at 198/197 per cent. premium, and a few more are offering. March shares were sold at 200/199 per cent. premium, and a sale was made for June delivery at 208. Marine Insurance.—Yangtzes have changed hands at \$140/142 locally for cash, and \$145 for April, and were sold to Hongkong at \$142, with exchange 74, equal to about \$144 with exchange 73. Straits shares were sold at \$134, and a few more might be procured on the same terms. Fire Insurance.—Hongkong were placed at \$370. No local business is reported in China Shipping.—Indo-China S.N. shares have been placed, to Hongkong, at \$54 cash, and the same price for the 31st current. China Mutual S.N. Preference shares were sold at Tls. 60, and ordinary shares, with 25 paid up, at Tls. 26. Sugar Companies.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares have been placed at Tls. 39 and Tls. 40. China Sugar Refining shares changed hands at \$177/177½ for March and \$180 for April. Mining.—Raub Australian Gold Mining shares were sold at \$26. Sheridans found a purchaser at Tls. 250. Docks Wharves & Godowns.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. were placed at Tls. 175, and Tls. 177½ for the 30th June. A few cash shares are offering. Shanghai Dock shares have been in demand, and business was done at Tls. 75/78 for March, Tls. 77 for June, and Tls. 82 for April. Shares are still wanted. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 126/127 cash, and Tls. 127/127½ for the 31st March. For May delivery Tls. 128 is offering—while holders ask higher rates. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were sold, and a few offering, at Tls. 92½. Industrial.—Business was done in Cotton Mill shares.—Ewos at Tls. 100, Internationals at Tls. 112 cash and Tls. 113 for the 30th April, and Yah-loongs at Tls. 93½. Majors were placed at Tls. 35. Laou-kung-mow Cotton S. & W. Co.—Shares were sold at Tls. 110 cash and for delivery on the 31st current. China Flour Mill Co., Limited.—Shares were placed at Tls. 59. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 88 cash and Tls. 88/89 for the 31st March. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco shares were sold for March delivery at Tls. 330. Hall & Holtz shares changed hands at \$40. Loans.—Debentures were placed.—Shanghai Land Investment 5½ per cent. at Tls. 100, Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent. at Tls. 102, Shanghai Langkat 10 per cent. at Tls. 100, plus the accrued interest in all cases. Quotations are:—

BANKS,

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$371.25.
Bank of China and Japan, defd.—£5.5.0.
Do, ordinary.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$20.

COTTON MILLS,

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100.00.
Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—17.00.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 110.00.
Laon-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 110.00.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 520.00.

DOCKS, WHARVES, & CO.,

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 250.00.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 185.00.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$58.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$408½.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 175.00.
Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 77.00.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 127.00.

INSURANCES,

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$150.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$101.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$71.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$345.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 200.00.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$13.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$230.
Yangtze Insurance Assoon., Ltd.—\$142.

LANDS,

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$72.
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$8½.
Shanghai Land Invest. Co., (fully pd.)—Tls. 92.50.

MINING,

Panjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6.45.
Panjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$1.20.
Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$26.
Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 2.50.

SHIPPING,

China-Mutual preference.—Tls. 60.00.
Do, ordinary, 25 paid.—Tls. 26.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 170.00.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$57.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$27.75.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 40.00.

Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 130.00.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 210.00.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 110.00.
SUGAR,
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$175.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$40½.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 40.00.

MISCELLANEOUS,

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 95.00.
Central Stores, Ltd.—\$13.13.
China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 59.00.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$40.00.
Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$60.00.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 35.00.
Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Tls. 500.00.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 217.00.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00.
Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 120.00.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 530.00.
Do, New Issue.—Nominal.
Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 30.00.
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 88.00.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 305.00.
Watson Co., A. S., Limited.—\$12½.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 11th March.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/10½
Bank Bills, on demand 1/10½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/10½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/10½
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/10½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/10½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 2.34
Credits, at 4 months' sight 2.37½

ON GERMANY.—

On demand 1.88

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 44½
Credits, 60 days' sight 45½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 137½
Bank, on demand 138

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 137½
Bank, on demand 138

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight 74½
Private, 30 days' sight 75½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand 9½ % pm.

ON MANILA.—

On demand 8½ % pm.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand 1 % pm.

SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate 10.66
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 55.75

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 7th March (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—Since last writing on the 21st ultimo the London Conference has in a manner been renewed, all parties agreeing to charge a uniform rate of 35s., and former rates have been resumed, while for New York there has been no change. Coastwise.—Sixteen steamers left on the 27th ultimo for Tientsin, the weather being reported mild, but since then frost has again set in there. Trade with Newchwang is expected to open about the middle of this month. Japan coal rates remain steady at about \$1.50 from Moji to this. For New York via Cape.—The berth is still vacant, both here and in the south. A slight local demand exists for tonnage, and this being the usual time of year for chartering, it is more than possible that a vessel may be taken up very shortly. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 37s. 6d.; tea 35s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 37s. 6d.; tea 35s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 42s. 6d.; Baltimore via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 47s. 6d.; Konigsberg via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 42s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 47s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 42s. 6d.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 37s. 6d.; tea 35s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 32s. 6d. net, general cargo 32s. 6d. net, waste silk 35s. net, tea 32s. 6d. net; Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 32s. 6d. net, general cargo 32s. 6d. net, waste silk 35s. net, tea 32s. 6d. net; Marseilles, by Conference Lines, tallow 32s. 6d. net, general cargo 32s. 6d. net, waste silk 35s. net, tea 32s. 6d. net. 42s. 6d. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York, by sail, 20s.

nominal. New York via Pacific, 1½ gold cents per lb. tea, 3 cents per lb. silk, \$9 per ton strawbraid; New York via Suez, 27s. 6d. per ton general cargo, 27s. 6d. tea; Boston, 35s. per ton general cargo; Philadelphia, 35s. per ton general cargo. Coast rates.—Moji to Shanghai \$1.50 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.40 per ton coal; Newchwang to Kobe season closed; Newchwang to southern ports, season closed.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Japan (str.), Prometheus (str.), Patroclus (str.), Socotra (str.), Borneo (str.), Oopack (str.), Bengal (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—Venus (str.), City of Rio de Janeiro (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Benalder (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.).
For BREMEN.—Creffield, Bayern (str.).
For PORTLAND.—Braemar (str.).
For AUSTRALIA.—Tokio Maru (str.), Tsinan (str.), Taiyuan (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—Tosa Maru (str.).
For VICTORIA.—Columbia (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST

MAIL.

HONGKONG.

March—

ARRIVALS.

4, Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
4, Keongwai, British str., from Bangkok.
4, Sullberg, German str., from Saigon.
4, Sunda, British str., from Antwerp.
4, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.
5, Clara, German str., from Pakhoi.
5, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
5, Paoting, British str., from Chinkiang.
5, Ixion, British str., from Liverpool.
5, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
5, Centurion, British flagship, from Tanghai.
5, Airlie, British str., from Kobe.
5, China, German str., from Saigon.
5, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
5, Machew, British str., from Bangkok.
5, Tamsui, British str., from Taku Bar.
5, Wuotau, German str., from Saigon.
6, Coptic, British str., from San Francisco.
6, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
6, Terrier, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
6, Whampoa, British str., from Moji.
6, Loyal, German str., from Mororan.
7, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
7, Huanan, British str., from Canton.
7, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
7, Propontis, British str., from Moji.
7, Toyo Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
7, Braemar, British str., from Tacoma.
7, Chiynen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
7, Irene, Chinese str., from Tongku.
7, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
7, Peshawur, British str., from Bombay.
7, Takao Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
8, Kutsang, British str., from Calcutta.
8, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
8, Gefion, Russian cruiser, from Singapore.
8, Deutschland, Russian cr., from Singapore.
8, Tancarville, British str., from Probolinggo.
8, Bayern, German str., from Bremen.
8, Canton, British str., from Saigon.
8, Kiangpak, Chinese str., from Swatow.
8, Woosung, British str., from Canton.
8, Gerda, German str., from Hamburg.
8, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
9, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
9, Glaucus, British str., from Liverpool.
9, Hansa, German str., from Saigon.
9, Nanyang, German str., from Taiwanfoo.
9, Tritos, German str., from Saigon.
9, Sissoi Veliky, Russian cr., from S'pore.
9, Navarin, Russian cruiser, from Singapore.
9, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
9, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
9, Benvorlich, British str., from London.
10, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
10, Erato, German str., from Moji.
10, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
10, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notsu.
10, Maria Valerie, Austrian str., from Kobe.
10, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
10, Taicheong, German str., from Singapore.
10, Wuhu, British str., from Moji.
10, Irene, Chinese str., from Canton.
10, Kashing, British str., from Canton.
10, Peiyang, German str., from Canton.
10, Turbo, British str., from Shanghai.

- 10, Mongkut, British str., from Saigon.
- 11, Natal, French str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
- 11, Taiwan Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
- 11, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 11, Paoting, British str., from Canton.
- 11, Tamsui, British str., from Canton.
- 11, Nanchang, British str., from Canton.
- 11, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., from S'thampton.
- 11, Holstein, German str., from Moji.
- 11, Fame, Brit. torpedo-boat, from Singapore.
- 11, Whiting, British torp.-bt., from Singapore.
- 11, Barfleur, British cruiser, from Singapore.

MARCH—DEPARTURES.

- 5, Rossia, Russian cr., for Yokohama.
- 5, Loksang, British str., for Tientsin.
- 5, Lyderhorn, Norwegian str., for Singapore.
- 5, Quarta, German str., for Saigon.
- 6, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
- 6, Chusan, German str., for Yokohama.
- 6, Coromandel, British str., for Europe.
- 6, Glengarry, British str., for Saigon.
- 6, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
- 6, Oceana, German str., for Yokohama.
- 6, Pronto, German str., for Tournon.
- 6, Rosetta, British str., for Yokohama.
- 6, Sabine Rickmers, German str., for Swatow.
- 6, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
- 6, Paoting, British str., for Canton.
- 6, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
- 6, Tamsui, British str., for Canton.
- 6, Quickstep, Amr. sch., for Anping.
- 6, Firebrand, British g.-bt., for Sandakan.
- 7, Taiyuan, British str., for Kobe.
- 7, Powerful, British cr., for Nagasaki.
- 7, Glenfalloch, British str., for Swatow.
- 7, Ixion, British str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Mathilde, German str., for Haiphong.
- 7, Sunda, British str., for Yokohama.
- 7, Irene, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 7, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
- 8, Hertha, German str., for Singapore.
- 8, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
- 8, Hainan, German str., for Iloilo.
- 8, Hunan, British str., for Ningpo.
- 8, Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
- 8, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Olympia, British str., for Tacoma.
- 8, Woosung, British str., for Swatow.
- 8, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 8, Nanchang, British str., for Canton.
- 9, Airlie, British str., for Australia.
- 9, Clam, British str., for Saigon.
- 9, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
- 9, Bayern, German str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Canton, British str., for Kobe.
- 9, Hohenzollern, Ger. str., for Yokohama.
- 9, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
- 9, Terrier, Norw. str., for Yokohama.
- 9, Whampoa, British str., for Iloilo.
- 9, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 10, Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
- 10, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
- 10, China, German str., for Saigon.
- 10, Glaucus, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Irene, Chinese str., for Swatow.
- 10, Kashing, British str., for Swatow.
- 10, Taicheong, German str., for Amoy.
- 10, Choyang, British str., for Canton.
- 10, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 10, Fannie Skolfield, Brit. ship, for Mentone.
- 11, Edgar, British cruiser, for Manila.
- 11, Apenrade, German str., for Haiphong.
- 11, Keongwai, British str., for Bangkok.
- 11, Takao Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
- 11, R. R. Thomas, Amr. ship, for Manila.
- 11, Tancarville, British str., for Aroe Bay.
- 11, Deucalion, British str., for Sandakan.
- 11, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
- 11, Nanyang, German str., for Swatow.
- 11, Paoting, British str., for Kebao.
- 11, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Taisang, British str., for Kobe.
- 11, Toyo Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
- 11, Turbo, British str., for Saigon.
- 11, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Misses A. de Marcaida, Delfina Hnosa and Trinidad Tino. Messrs. F. Focken. Francisco Natividad, José Natividad, Capt. Holm and Capt. Nanjelsdorff.
- Per *Phra C. C. Kiao*, from Bangkok. Messrs. Breninger and Kessler, and Miss Jacobsen.
- Per *Nanyang*, from Taiwanfoo, &c., Messrs. Orange, Haesloop and Monree.

Per *Haimun*, from Tamsui, Capt. Douglas.

Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Heinsen and 2 children, Mrs. Air, Messrs. Niels Möller and F. Lehmann, and 125 Chinese.

Per *Formosa*, from Coast Ports, Dr. and Mrs. Layng Mr. and Mrs. Streich, Messrs. Cox and Parr.

Per *Sunda*, for Hongkong from London, Mr. and Mrs. Tooker, Mrs. Iancock, two infants and Nurse, Mrs. Craddock and two children, Capt. and Mrs. Houghton, infant and Maid, Lieut. C. H. de Bartolome, Messrs. R. H. Fraser, Taylor, F. Dewhurst and Master C. Gray; from Singapore, Messrs. W. Nebel and J. L. Loveland, Major and Mrs. Cox, Lieuts. Lewis and Campbell, Capt. Warren, Sergt. Major Stoker, Qr. Mr. Sgt. and Mrs. Lowry and Mrs. Matheson and child; for Manila from London, Mr. C. T. Broxup; for Shanghai from London, Dr. and Mrs. Curwen and child, Miss Mackay, Mr. and Mrs. Wood and child, Mrs. Gye and child, Messrs. Godfrey and Knox.

Per *Keong-wai*, from Bangkok, Messrs. Oka, and Quintal.

Per *Airlie*, from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, and Miss More.

Per *Coptic*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Watson, Miss Watson, Mr. R. W. Borthwick, Mrs. R. H. Pasmore, Mrs. E. W. Harrison, Mrs. W. W. Campbell and children, Messrs. J. H. White, F. W. Blechyden, Daniel Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Reagan, Messrs. J. G. F. Thyssen and F. Von Schoeller, Mrs. L. Harthorne, Countess Espanal, Bavauda, Messrs. Alex, Vaughan Robinson, and Douglas Jones.

Per *Taisang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. Lawrence.

Per *Chiyuen*, from Shanghai, &c., Messrs. Millson and Brochi, and Master Cromton.

Per *Kutsang*, from Calcutta, &c., Colonel and Mrs. Pemple, Mrs. Gill, Miss Robinson, Master Gill, Mr. Clarke and 433 Chinese.

Per *Bayern*, for Hongkong from Bremen, Messrs. John Frame, W. Ramsay, Mr. and Mrs. Smyth, Mr. E. N. Butt, Dr. and Mrs. Kinsey, Messrs. H. Withers, F. Kammerzell, Mr. and Mrs. Barnch, Messrs. F. Kallenberg, A. Riedel, W. Hethey, Barbours, Lathrop, D. T. von Barmbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Bierley, Mrs. Hirschberg, Miss Noack A. Meyen, Mr. Focke, Count Christoph, Count Conrad Dohna, Messrs. H. Handelsmann, E. Steebe, and W. Bower; for Japan, Count C. von Leyden, Mr. E. Achilles, Miss P. Weise, Miss K. Vollmer, Mr. and Mrs. M. Kaufmann, Messrs. C. Wolff, Oscar, Ritter von Soest, Rev. H. T. Drake, Messrs. T. H. Kershaw and A. G. Crame; for Shanghai, Mr. N. S. Sodermann, Bro. G. H. Krippendorff, Mr. G. Porterfield, Messrs. Neil Lang, Carl Rehn, Miss More, Mr. Squire and family, Dr. A. G. Parrott and family, Miss Ford, Mr. Roberts, Miss McEwan, Mr. Wilson and family, Messrs. Larsson, Groulund, Landgreen, Gustafson, Cameron, Miss A. Duncan, Mr. A. Adair, Mr. and Mrs. F. Syliewe, Messrs. T. Trost, Sergey Friede, Dr. Velde, Messrs. Graefe, Messer, A. Gaedertz, Dr. H. Betz, Mr. B. Ottmanus, Mr. Lohman, and Mr. A. Dittmar.

Per *Thales*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. Beebe, Hemers, and John Brownhill, Misses Ema K. Scott and Mary K. Scott.

Per *Nanyang*, from Taiwanfoo, &c., Miss Benning, and Masters C. and P. Hastings.

Per *Fushun*, from Shanghai, Mrs. A. E. Knights and Miss Knights, Messrs. Mengens, E. M. Hazeland, Chun Faiting, and Chang.

Per *Haimun*, from Tamsui, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Castro, and Mrs. Borchardt.

Per *Choyang*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Mugens and children, and Mr. T. S. Monteith.

DEPARTED.

Per *Thames*, for Shanghai from Hongkong, Messrs. Chan Tsze Lai, Chan Kwan Shan, and Harvey; from London, Mrs. William and child, and Mr. E. C. Emmett; from Brindisi, Misses Margery (2), and Mr. Hellier; from Ismailia, Mr. Vouwerk; from Venice, Count and Countess Poniniski; from Colombo, Miss M. E. Cameron.

Per *Sungkang*, for Manila, Messrs. A. F. Kruse, Jesus de Ansnategin, V. Balbas y Ageo, P. Lawson, A. Zialcita, Dionicio Tuango, Felix Inmul and C. Afagon.

Per *Haitan*, for Swatow, Mrs. Wong Ng; for Amoy, Capt. S. Mangelsdorff, Miss Lawrence, and Mr. L. H. Clayton; for Foochow, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Eaton, and Rev. Dr. Swill.

Per *Coromandel*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Lieut. S. W. M. Beaumont, Mr., Mrs. and Miss S. E. Laidley, Lord Henry Thynne, and Mr. A. J. Reed; for Colombo, Messrs. Gerwig and Kopp; for Bombay, Messrs. R. S. Mogra and H. M. H. Nemaze; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Gompertz; for Brindisi, Mr. R. Young; for London, Messrs. Wm. Bass, R. G. Johnson, Act.-Gunner J. Rundle, Act.-Carpr. G. Rowe, Comdr. E. F. Domville, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. C. Platt and child; from Yokohama for Marseilles, Mrs. More; for London, Capt. N. P. Pollock; from Kobe for Port Said, Messrs. Ed. V. Osborne and H. W. Commons; for London, Mr. J. Dempster; from Nagasaki for London, Mrs. and Miss H. Collbran; from Shanghai for Singapore, Mr. J. H. Pye; for Colombo, Mr. M. A. Tomasoff; for London, Mrs. W. Gardner and 2 children, and Mr. C. Smith.

Per *Haitan*, for Swatow, Mrs. Wong Ng; for Amoy, Capt. S. Mangelsdorff, Miss Lawrence, and Mr. L. H. Clayton; for Foochow, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Eaton, and Rev. Dr. Swill.

Per *Rosetta*, from Hongkong for Nagasaki, Mrs. Kusano Oyeuni, and Mr. Ohisui; for Kobe, Mr. A. Fleet; for Yokohama from London, Mr. W. Palmer, Mrs. St. John, Miss Smith, Miss Oliver, Dr. and Mrs. D. G. Walters, Mr. A. Snowman, Mr. and Mrs. Hay, Messrs. T. Hellis, W. Blain and W. Knox, Lord Dormer, Messrs. J. Crowle and F. W. Heald; from Colombo, Mr. M. Visvesvaraya; from Brindisi, Mr., Mrs. and Miss McMullen; from London for Nagasaki, Mr. Carndaff.

Per *Sunda*, from Hongkong for Shanghai, Messrs. G. Bayer, J. Marshall, W. Nebel, J. L. Loveland, and Y. Wada; for Kobe, Misses Short and Pelton; from London for Shanghai, Dr. and Mrs. Curwent and child, Mr. and Mrs. Woods and child, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Gye and child, and Mr. Knox.

Per *Hertha*, for Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. C. Rud. Heinsen and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Richter and child, Mr. and Mrs. W. Nielsen, Messrs. Duncan and Tettefsen.

Per *Olympia*, for Tacoma, Rev. and Mrs. C. C. Jeremiasen and children.

Per *Bayern*, for Shanghai from Bremen, Messrs. N. S. Sodermann, G. Krippendorff and H. Krippendorff; from Antwerp, Messrs. G. Porterfield, N. Lang, and C. Rehn; from Southampton, Misses Moore, Ford, McEwan, Dr. A. G. Parrot and family, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Wilson and family, Messrs. Larsson, Groulund, Landgreen, Gustafson, Cameron, A. Adair, Miss A. Duncan and infant; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. F. Syliewe, Dr. Velde, Messrs. T. Trost, Serge Friede, Graefe, Messer, A. Gaedertz, Tsching Tsai, Lieut. Hsutingchung, Mrs. Choo and child; from Naples, Dr. H. Betz, Mr. Squire and family; from Colombo, Messrs. B. Ottmanus and M. Lohmann; from Singapore, Mr. Dittmar; from Hongkong, Messrs. Garnaas and G. von Bergen, Miss E. M. Carvalho, Mr. and Mrs. Macaulay, Dr. and Mrs. Horsey, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Collingen, and Mr. M. Lynch.

Per *Hohenzollern*, for Yokohama from Port Said, Count C. v. Leyden; from Bremen, Mr. M. Hochgrass, Misses P. Weise and K. Vollmer; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Kaufmann; from Singapore, Messrs. T. H. Kershaw and A. G. Crame; for Hiogo from Genoa, Mr. C. Wolff; for Nagasaki from Port Said, Mr. O. R. von Soest; from Southampton, Rev. H. C. Drake.

Per *Airlie*, for Sydney, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, Miss Moore, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. F. B. Stuart, Mr. D. Parr, Mr. and Mrs. Corcoran and family.

Per *Lightning*, for Singapore, Mrs. Leung Tai Choy, Mrs. Chan Taat, Messrs. J. G. T. Thyssen, R. W. Borthwick, Mrs. Halmia and daughter, Mrs. Ahmed and daughter; for Penang, Messrs. Hang Shun Hing and Minañ, Mrs. Okat, Mrs. Okio, Mrs. Oyama, and Mrs. Oking; for Calcutta, Mr. Cecil, Mrs. Murchil, and Mrs. S. Belson.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Messrs. Duff, Drewhurst, Broxup, Brunschig, and Simpson.

Printed and Published by D. WARREN SMITH, at 29, Wyndham Street, Victoria, Hongkong.